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TO THE  
DESCENDANTS OF JOHN LEE,  
OF FARMINGTON, CONN.,

WHETHER THEIR HOMES ARE ALONG THE ATLANTIC  
SLOPE, OR BY THE FATHER OF WATERS; AMONG  
THE SNOW CLAD HILLS, OR ORANGE GROVES;  
HOWEVER HUMBLE THEIR LOT, OR  
FAR THEY HAVE WANDERED  
FROM THE ANCES-  
TRAL HOME,

**This Book is Respectfully Dedicated.**

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## EXPLANATORY.

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At our Family Gathering, as will be seen in the minutes, a committee was appointed to prepare the material and attend to the publication of the proceedings, and it was intended to commence at once, and have it completed as soon as practicable. Knowing the fitness of Rev. Mr. Loveland for the position, and his willing disposition to render any service that was within his power, he was selected as one of them, with the understanding that the work would be principally his to do, and under his control. His sudden sickness and death in September disarranged all plans, and has greatly retarded its progress. Another thing which operated to cause delay, was the fact, that after our Gathering had dissolved and many had left for their homes, it was suggested that it would be a good plan to illustrate the book with the likenesses of some of our best looking Lees, so that other members of the family might obtain some idea of the style of beauty in vogue among our kindred.

The resulting correspondence, of course, took much time, and the additional fact that some were unable to attend to the matter at an early day, (owing to sickness in their families), all operated as a hindrance, so that it was late in January before all were obtained. Still another cause was, that we were in the midst of an exciting political campaign, in which, of course, every American citizen was interested, and the secretary was selected by his fellow-townsmen as a candidate for the Legislature, and elected after a fierce contest, at the same time being a member of the city government where he resides; and also the fact, that he is a mechanic, and necessitated to daily toil, all operated to delay the work.

He would have much preferred that this work had fallen upon some one else, but there seemed to be no one who was willing to attempt it, and so he must do it, if it was done at all. He hopes this explanation will be satisfactory, and that the record of what was said and done at Hartford will be a source both of interest and pleasure to all the kindred, whether present or absent.

MERIDEN, MARCH, 1885.



## PREFACE.

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Those who have the "LEE BOOK," and are familiar with its contents, will, perhaps, wonder that the sketch of the descendants of Thomas (the twin) should appear as it does, out of the regular order, but the reason therefor will appear as follows: I had never heard of any attempt to trace out the Farmington Lees until, in the Autumn of 1878, when I casually heard from a friend, who was employed in the office where the work was being done, that there was in progress a history of our family. This seemed to me strange, for all my life had been passed in Connecticut, and I certainly was not unknown in the community. I had spoken on many platforms in defence of republican principles; had again and again appeared as an advocate of total abstinence in different localities; had been active in Free Masonry and Odd Fellowship, and had been the official head of both orders in Connecticut. To this day I am unable to explain or guess the reason why, in all the researches of Deacon Charles and Rev. Samuel Lee, my family was entirely overlooked, living, as we always had, within thirty miles of the old home at Farmington, where my grandfather was born, and from which town he went as a soldier at the age of sixteen, to join the Army of the Revolution. I had long felt an ardent desire to know more than I did concerning my ancestry and kindred, and when the work appeared, was an eager purchaser and reader.

After becoming somewhat familiar with it, it occurred to me that a family gathering was both desirable and feasible. I knew that other old families had held such gatherings, which had been pleasant occasions and were fondly remembered; some of them were the Huntingtons, Burwells, Tutties, Andrews, Harrisons, Barnes, and several others that might be mentioned.

My native town, (Barkhamsted), had observed its Centennial, in 1879, with success, and knowing something of how it was brought about, I determined to ascertain the feelings of our kindred, and see if we could have a gathering, and if not, why not? I accordingly began correspondence with different branches through their representatives, and soon found a willingness to co-operate, if there was some one to take the lead. We have not many clergymen or professional men in our ranks: what few we have are too busy to devote much time to such matters. I found that if it was to be done, all

modesty must be laid aside, and a certain amount of self-assurance was demanded. Responses were so favorable, and assurances of assistance were so numerous, that a circular was prepared and attractively printed, which received a hearty endorsement from a large number, and sent to all the different families, near or remote, whose addresses could be learned. Yet fearing that some were omitted, it is inserted here, viz. :

#### GATHERING OF THE LEE FAMILY IN 1884.

✓ **JOHN LEE** was a native of Colchester, Essex County, England; born in 1620; came to America in 1634, landing in Boston, and the following year settled in Connecticut. He was one of the second company from Hartford that settled in Farmington in 1641, and was one of the original town proprietors; married in 1658 Mary, daughter of Stephen Hart; died August 8th, 1690, and was buried in the old Farmington "burying ground," where there has recently been erected a handsome monument to his memory by one of his descendants.

✶ John Lee had six children born to him, all of whom married, and had families.

✶ First—**JOHN, JR.**, who lived and died in Farmington, and from whom are descended the Lees of Harwinton, Windham, Granby, Kent, and several other towns in Connecticut.

✶ Second—**MARY**, who married Stephen Upson, of Waterbury, and from whom many of the Upsons of Waterbury, Wolcott and Southington, are descended.

✶ Third—**STEPHEN**, who was the first settler in what is now known as New Britain, and from whom the Lees of New Britain, Berlin and Kensington are mostly descended. It is supposed, but the information is not positive, that some, at least, of the Middletown Lees are from this family.

✶ Fourth—**THOMAS**, who lived and died in Farmington; from him are descended the Lees of Southington, Bristol, Barkhamsted, Sheffield (Mass.), and those who settled in Vermont. One of his sons settled in Canada, near Niagara. Many of the Lees of Central and Western New York are descended from this family branch.

✶ Fifth—**DAVID**, who settled in Coventry (Ct.); from him are descended the Lees of Willington, Salisbury and probably other towns in Connecticut. This family is also largely represented in Central and Western New York.

✶ Sixth—**TABITHA**: married Preserved Strong of Northampton (Mass); afterward he resided in Lebanon and Coventry (Ct.), and from her many of the Strongs of Eastern Connecticut are descended.

The posterity of John Lee are now numerous and widely scattered. Until within a few years, but little has been known by either of the family branches about the others. About thirty years since Deacon Charles Lee, of Norwich (Ct.), a native of Windham, commenced gathering material for a genealogical history of our family. His efforts were seconded by Rev.<sup>d</sup> Samuel Lee, of New Ipswich, (N. H.); born in Berlin, (Ct.) in 1803, and died in 1881. On the death of the former, in 1865, the

work was continued by his daughter, Sarah Marsh Lee, and, aided by different members of our common family, the work was published in 1878, thus first giving to the world the family history of John Lee's posterity in connected form and order.

This work, though the result of years of indefatigable labor and research, is still imperfect, and it is very desirable to collect additional facts and records regarding the family history. No attempt has ever been made TO HOLD A FAMILY GATHERING as many other New England families have done no more ancient or numerous than our own; but it is now proposed to hold such a gathering in 1884—just two and a half centuries since the landing of our common ancestor on the shores of America. Correspondence has been opened with various parties of all the different branches of our family, to the number of twenty or more, all of whom have responded with enthusiasm, and highly approve of the project.

To correspond with all of our numerous kindred, to ascertain their views upon the subject, would prove a herculean task—a task which no one alone can well undertake—but which, it is hoped, will enlist all who have at heart the perpetuation of our family history.

In order that all interested may be informed of the project, and have an opportunity to express their views, this circular has been prepared and sent to every one of our kindred whose name and address have been ascertained.

It is obvious that for success there must be unity and concert of action, and that the descendants of each of the sons and daughters of our common ancestor must assume the correspondence with their respective branches, and furnish the one having this matter in charge with the full name and post office address of all their kindred.

You are a descendant of John Lee, through son (or daughter), and, it is to be presumed, are interested in this matter, and in order that we may act understandingly, you will please answer the questions on the enclosed sheet, adding such remarks as the subject may suggest to you.

The objects of the proposed gathering are numerous; prominent among which are the collection of additional material for a continued and more complete family history, and the formation of social acquaintances among our kindred, who are now strangers.

August, 1884, has been suggested as a proper time for holding the gathering (that being the month in which the majority of people take their vacation), holding a session of not less than three days.

Hartford, Conn., is proposed as the place of meeting, that being the first settled home of our ancestor, and where he resided till reaching the age of twenty-one.

It is part of the plan that one day be devoted to a visit to the ancestral home at Farmington, nine miles distant, and easily accessible by rail or carriage.

The most important items of expense incident to the gathering will be a place in which to hold our meeting, and the printing and sending out the circulars of inquiry and invitation. These it is proposed to meet by voluntary contributions, in such sums as convenience or inclination

may suggest. All will be welcome, and it is earnestly hoped that no one of our kindred will be restrained by any fears on that score from giving a hearty response to the project of a family gathering of the descendants of JOHN LEE, OF FARMINGTON, CONN.

The responses to this circular were gratifying. Some 250 were received, all expressing approval of the project. Many promised to be present, if possible, and expressed a willingness to aid the undertaking in any way in their power. Others had words of approval, and regretting that old age, with its attendant infirmities, sickness and great distance to travel, would prevent their being present. Satisfied that there was no doubt of success, a formal call was signed by a goodly number of representatives of the different family branches; and a printed copy of this was sent to every family whose address was known. Fearing some did not receive it, it is also inserted here, as follows:

*Formal Call for a Gathering of the Lee Family in 1884.*

To .....

You have already been informed of the proposed family gathering of the descendants of

JOHN LEE OF FARMINGTON.

A large number of circulars have been sent out, and more than one hundred responses have been received, all earnestly approving of the project, and expressing an intention to be present, if circumstances will permit.

In the circular the objects and purposes of the proposed gathering were fully stated and explained.

The posterity of John Lee have been found in legislative halls, in the sacred desk, and at the bar. Many have been noted physicians, merchants, farmers, mechanics, and tradesmen, filling the various positions of usefulness to which they were called with credit and honor. There has been no war for the past one hundred and fifty years in which they have been unrepresented. Many battle-fields have been reddened by the life-blood of some of our family. Wherever men have been needed to do and dare for the right, there have the DESCENDANTS OF JOHN LEE been found.

Feeling a just pride in this record, and having full faith, from the responses that have been received, that a family gathering can and will be made a success in every way, we, as common kindred, and representing the different branches of our family, unite in calling such a gathering, to be held in Hartford, Conn., at 10, a. m., August 5th, 1884.

We know that many who would be among us are far removed from the ancestral home, and we realize that distance, sickness, and age, with its attendant infirmities, will prevent the attendance of many who would heartily enjoy the occasion.

So, we say to all who can, come, with your husbands and wives; come, with your sons and your daughters; come from the Northern hills and

the Southern plains; come from Atlantic's rocky shore to Pacific's golden sand; come, and help us make it a joyous occasion—one on which memory will fondly linger while life shall last.

The few who remain near the "old hive" promise you a hearty greeting and a cordial welcome.

That we may be able to make an estimate of how many will be present, and arrange matters accordingly, we ask you to inform us whether it is your intention to be present.

We realize that circumstances which no one can foresee may arise, for which allowance must be made, and we hope you will so notify us at once.

Andrew Frink Lee,	Buffalo, N. Y.
James Wright Lee,	Cleveland, Ohio.
William Lee,	Marysville, Ohio.
Rev. Samuel Wentworth Lee,	Bevington, Iowa.
Augustin N. Lee,	Chicago, Ill.
Samuel C. Lee,	Baltimore, Md.
Dr. Mary Victoria Lee,	Oswego, N. Y.
Ashbill Lee,	Willsborough, N. Y.
John Wesley Lee,	Poultney, Vt.
William Henry Lee,	Tewksbury, Mass.
Lyman Lee,	Dovers Plains, N. Y.
Sarah Marsh Lee,	Norwich, Conn.
Charles Lee,	Kent, Conn.
John Lee Draper,	Providence, R. I.

*Descendants of John Lee, Jr.*

William Henry Lee,	New York, N. Y.
Lorenzo Porter Lee,	New Britain, Conn.
Isaac Newton Lee,	New Britain, Conn.
Lorenzo Porter Lee, Jr.,	New Britain, Conn.
Mrs. Angeline Lee Howard,	Hartford, Conn.
Mrs. Jennette Lee Coe,	Winsted, Conn.

*Descendants of Stephen Lee.*

Leonard Lee,	Kenosha, Wis.
Francis Lee,	Clinton, Iowa.
Rev. Charles Russell Lee,	Thorold, Ont.
Rev. Albert Lee,	Dixon, Ill.
David Bradley Lee,	St. Louis, Mo.
Richard Henry Lee,	Spring Hill Kan.
Frederick J. Lee,	Howell, Mich.
Rev. Frank Theodocius Lee,	Salt Lake City, Utah.
Charles Eugene Lee,	Rochester, N. Y.
Milford Leroy Lee,	Lewis, N. Y.
Gad Henry Lee,	Waterford, N. Y.
Curtiss Miles Lee,	Cleveland, Ohio.
Edgar James Lee,	Troy, Penn.
Thomas George Lee,	Philadelphia, Penn.
Caroline Lee,	Fair Haven, Vt.
William Wallace Lee,	Meriden, Conn.

*Descendants of Thomas Lee.*

Graham Lee,	Hamlet, Ill.
John Randolph Lee,	Buffalo, N. Y.
Hezekiah Fitch Lee,	Binghampton, N. Y.
Rev. Hamilton R. Lee,	East Oakland, Cal.
Luther Clark Lee,	Aurora, Ill.
Samuel Brown Lee, Sr.,	Duplex, Tenn.
Maria Merrick Lee,	Pittsfield, Mass.
Rev. Albert Bushnell,	Geneseo, Ill.
Alvah Bushnell,	Camden, N. J.
Milo Lee Gay,	Howell, Mich.
George Henry Lee,	Bridgeport, Conn.

*Descendants of David Lee.*

Direct all your communications to

WM. WALLACE LEE, MERIDEN, CONN.

Very likely more would have signed the call had they been asked, but it was not intended to have the signature of every one of our kindred, but to secure a fair representation of the different family branches, and at least one signature in every locality where our kindred dwell.

Many names of our kindred were received of whom we had had no knowledge, between the time of sending out the call and the gathering in August last. It is earnestly hoped that no one will feel neglected because their names did not appear in the call, for certainly it was not intended to neglect or slight any one. Certain it is, that if the friends knew the time that has been spent—the labor cheerfully given—the many weary hours, when the head was sick, and the tired body refused to do its work, when the midnight oil has burned low, they would not criticise harshly ; necessitated as I am to daily toil, I must do this work nights and at odd hours. Often have I retired at a late hour, when the weary arm could no longer hold the pen ; but not to sleep, for the brain was still busy with thoughts of how to make our gathering a success, and give added interest to the occasion. How the gathering passed off, and what was done, is told in the following pages : not perhaps with the grace of polished diction, which would be desirable, but in plain, unlettered style. It is earnestly hoped that it will be read with interest in far-away homes, probably by many who have never seen the little State which the descendants of John Lee helped to found, and thus help to keep in memory the story of our New England ancestry : to increase our veneration for the noble men and loving women of the olden time, and also a deeper love and tenderer regard for all the widely scattered descendants of John Lee, one of the pioneers of Farmington, Conn.

WM. WALLACE LEE.







*Wm. Wallace Lee.*

MERIDEN, CONN.

## PRELIMINARY.

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On the evening of August 4th, the night before the great gathering, our kindred began to assemble at the United States Hotel, each being informed by circular beforehand, that arrangements, at reduced rates, without curtailing accommodations, had been made for all who desired. This hotel was, therefore, the headquarters, and on the evening named, the Lees from far and near, began to gather there.

The Secretary was present to welcome each new arrival, and the hotel register was eagerly scanned to search out those who bore the Lee name. Parties were soon made known to each other, and kindred found kindred of whose existence they had never known. It was a time of hand-shaking and cordial greeting. An informal meeting was held in the parlors of those who had been active in devising and arranging for the gathering to formulate some plan or programme for the meeting on the next day.

Committees were appointed to raise funds and make all needed provisions for its success, which having been accomplished, again was heard the buzz of conversation, mingled with jokes and laughter, plainly indicating that all were enjoying themselves to their utmost; this was continued until a late hour, and all retired with bright anticipations for the morrow.

Tuesday morning all were anxiously scanning the clouds, and the threatening aspect of the day was the topic of conversation. Before nine the rain commenced to fall heavily, and the long faces were plenty, but resolved to have a gathering, despite the rain, the friends hied to "Allyn Hall," where were found other kindred who had come in from neighboring towns, defying an August rain, resolved to see and know more about their Lee kindred.

How they succeeded is told in the pages of the book; but the feeling of interest, each in the other, the kindly greetings, the many questions asked and answered, cannot be told on paper, unless by

some one who can wield the pen with more ease and grace than the one upon whom it fell to prepare this book for the printer.

Nor, indeed, is it intended to present a volume of graceful eloquence, but a plain statement of what occurred in our two days' gathering, that those who participated may have the record for reference, and those who had not, as well as those who come after us, may peruse the simple story told in a simple way.

To present the book of Proceedings in as concise a form as possible, and that it may be found convenient for ready reference, the SECRETARY'S REPORT is first given, as the minutes of the proceedings, which tells, without detail, what was done, while the pages following, give Addresses, Letters, Papers in full and in their order, which the writer hopes will be found of sufficient interest and value to our kin, and should they prove so, he will have found ample compensation for his time and trouble in the gratification of feeling that, as one of them, he has contributed something to while away the leisure hours of life.

W. W. L.

FIRST DAY, TUESDAY, AUG. 5TH, 1884.

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*SECRETARY'S REPORT.*

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In accordance with the formal call, a meeting of the descendants of "John Lee, of Farmington," Conn., to the number of about 250, was held in Allyn Hall, in Hartford, Conn., on Tuesday, Aug. 5th, 1884, at ten o'clock, A. M.

The meeting was called to order by Wm. Wallace Lee, of Meriden, Conn., and made choice of Gad Henry Lee, of Waterford, N. Y., as temporary chairman, and Bernard A. Lee, of Minneapolis, Minn., as temporary secretary. It was voted that a committee of five on permanent organization be appointed by the chair, and he chose :

Leonard Lee,	Kenosha, Wis.
Agustin N. Lee,	Chicago, Ill.
Lorenzo P. Lee, Jr.,	New Britain, Conn.
John W. N. Lee,	Duplex, Tenn.
Charles E. Lee,	Rochester, N. Y.

who reported the following list of permanent officers :

*PRESIDENT.*

WILLIAM WALLACE LEE, .....Meriden, Conn.

*VICE-PRESIDENTS.*

WILLIAM H. LEE, .....New York,  
ANDREW FRINK LEE, .....Buffalo, N. Y.,  
LORENZO P. LEE, SR., .....New Britain, Conn.,  
RICHARD H. LEE, .....Spring Hill, Kan.,  
HEZEKIAH F. LEE, .....Binghampton, N. Y.,  
WILLIAM LEE, .....Marysville, Ohio.

*SECRETARY.*

WILLIAM H. LEE, .....Tewksbury, Mass.

*ASSISTANT SECRETARY.*

CHAS. NORTHAM LEE, .....New York.

*REGISTRAR.*

THOMAS GOODRICH LEE, .....New York.

*TREASURER.*

CHARLES E. LEE, .....Rochester, N. Y.

Wm. Wallace Lee, on taking the chair, called upon the Rev. C. Russell Lee, of Thorold, Ontario, Canada, to offer prayer. The audience stood and joined with him in the Lord's Prayer, at the close. The President then made a brief address of welcome, which was followed by the singing of a hymn, written for the occasion, by Miss Myra Lee Howard, of Hartford, Conn.

Letters of regret from absentees, and one relating to the Lee family in England and Canada, were then read. Interesting papers by William Lee, of Marysville, Ohio, and William Henry Lee, of New York, followed.

At 12:20 P. M., it was voted to take a recess until 1:30 P. M.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Meeting called to order at 2:30.

This session opened by the reading of additional letters of regret, and the names of those sending such letters.

*Voted*—That a committee of three be appointed to consider the feasibility of an excursion to Farmington. Committee:

James W. Lee,	Cleveland, Ohio.,
Lorenzo P. Lee, Jr.,	New Britain, Conn.,
Curtis M. Lee,	Cleveland, Ohio,
Henry Lee,	Aleedo, Ill.

*Voted*—That a committee of three be appointed to consider the feasibility of having a photographic group picture taken. Committee:

Thomas George Lee,	Rochester, N. Y.,
Francis Lee,	Clinton, Iowa,
Hiram J. Lee,	St. Louis, Mo.

After considerable discussion in regard to another day's session, and once voting in favor and then reconsidering that vote, it was left to be considered at the close of this session.

A paper was then read by William Wallace Lee, describing how the plans for this gathering were perfected, and also giving a sketch of the Lee family.

This was followed by a paper read by Leonard Lee, of Kenosha, Wis.

At this point the exercises were varied by the singing, to the tune of Auld Lang Syne, of an ode written by Edwin N. Andrews, of Chicago, Ill.

Thomas W. Lee, of St. John, N. B., was here called upon the platform, who in a few words introduced his nephew, G. Herbert Lee, of St. John.

He thanked the meeting in a very pleasant and hearty manner for the cordial reception that met him on every hand, and convinced us by his speech that he is one of us.

Another member of the Lee family, who has been unable to connect himself with our branch, Professor John S. Lee, of Canton, N. Y., spoke of some of the special characteristics of the family, and was followed by Rev. Burdette Hart, of Fair Haven, Conn.

The following resolution was unanimously passed :

*Resolved*—That we extend a vote of thanks to Sarah M. Lee for the great services she has rendered the Lee family, in gathering the material and issuing her edition of the history of the descendants of John Lee, of Farmington.

*Voted*—That a committee of five be appointed to perfect a permanent organization. Committee :

William Wallace Lee,	Meriden, Conn.,
John Lee Draper,	Providence, R. I.,
Alvah Bushnell,	Philadelphia, Penn.,
Rev. Alfred L. Loveland,	Granby, Conn.,
Henry A. Lee,	Sandusky, Ohio.

At 5:35 P. M., it was voted, to adjourn until Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock.

## WEDNESDAY'S SESSION.

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The meeting was called to order at 9:35 A. M.

The following report of the photographic committee was adopted:

*Mr. Chairman:*

The committee report that a group picture will be made on the new Capitol steps at noon intermission.

The picture will be 11 x 14 inches in size, and will cost 75 cts. each if more than fifty copies are ordered, if less, \$1.00 each.

All are earnestly requested to proceed directly to the Capitol. All wishing one or more copies will please give their names and addresses to Thomas G. Lee, Rochester, who will be at the registry desk.

FRANCIS LEE,  
HIRAM J. LEE,  
THOMAS G. LEE.

*Voted*—To adopt the report of the committee on permanent organization.

### REPORT.

The committee to whom was referred the business of drafting a plan for a permanent organization for the descendants of their common ancestor, John Lee, of Farmington, have attended to their duties, and beg leave to report the following:

This organization shall consist of a President, with two or more Vice-Presidents from each of such States and Territories as may have resident members of our family kindred, a Secretary and Assistant Secretary, with a Treasurer, who shall compose a board of active and efficient officers, to hold meetings of their body as often as may be deemed necessary, for the purpose of securing acquaintance and familiarity, one with another, and with the work of gathering statistics, reminiscences and personal history, for the purpose of maturing and ultimately publishing a more extended and perfect genealogical record of the Lee family.

Whenever the desirability of a general meeting of all the members of this family for reunion and better acquaintance shall recommend itself to the judgment of this Board of Officers, they shall issue their call, to every known member, through their Secretary, for them to come at such place as may be most desirable or convenient.

This Board of Officers are authorized to fill all vacancies that may occur by death, resignation, or inability to labor to secure the objects of the organization.





*Francis Lee.*

CLINTON, IOWA.



*Voted*—To adopt the following list of Permanent Officers of this organization :

*PRESIDENT.*

WILLIAM H. LEE, .....New York.

*VICE-PRESIDENTS*

GAD HENRY LEE, .....Waterford, N. Y.,  
 DR. MARY V. LEE, .....Oswego, N. Y.,  
 CHARLES E. LEE, .....Rochester, N. Y.,  
 WILLIAM HENRY LEE, .....Tewksbury, Mass.,  
 WILLARD O. LEE, .....Springfield, Mass.,  
 JOHN LEE DRAPER, .....Providence, R. I.,  
 Miss SARAH M. LEE, .....Norwich, Conn.,  
 LORENZO P. LEE, JR., .....New Britain, Conn.,  
 R. B. LEE WESTOVER, .....Castleton, Vt.,  
 EDGAR J. LEE, .....Troy, Penn.,  
 ALVAH BUSHNELL, .....Philadelphia, Penn.,  
 HENRY A. LEE, .....Sandusky, Ohio,  
 WILLIAM LEE, .....Marysville, Ohio,  
 FRED. J. LEE, .....Howell, Mich.,  
 WILLIAM WALLACE LEE, .....Bristol, Ind.,  
 AUGUSTINE N. LEE, .....Chicago, Ill.,  
 REV. ALBERT LEE, .....Dixon, Ill.,  
 HENRY LEE, .....Aleedo, Ill.,  
 LEONARD LEE, .....Kenosha, Wis.,  
 CHARLES H. LEE, .....Janesville, Wis.,  
 FRANCIS LEE, .....Clinton, Iowa,  
 REV. SAMUEL LEE, .....Bevington, Iowa,  
 BERNARD A. LEE, .....Minneapolis, Minn.,  
 ROBERT A. LEE, .....Louisville, Ky.,  
 JOHN W. N. LEE, .....Duplex, Tenn.,  
 JOHN W. LEE, .....New Orleans, La.,  
 HIRAM J. LEE, .....St. Louis, Mo.,  
 DAVID CHARLES LEE, .....St. Louis, Mo.,  
 RICHARD H. LEE, .....Spring Hill, Kan.,  
 CHARLES LEE, .....Denver, Col.,  
 REV. HAMILTON R. LEE, .....East Oakland, Cal.,  
 SAMUEL C. LEE, .....Baltimore, Md.,  
 LEBBEUS LEE, .....San Jose, Cal.,  
 REV. C. RUSSELL LEE, .....Thorold, Ont., Canada.  
 G. HERBERT LEE, .....St. John, N. B.,  
 CURTIS M. LEE, .....Cleveland, Ohio,  
 Miss SARAH FISK LEE, .....New Ipswich, N. H.

*SECRETARY.*

WILLIAM WALLACE LEE, .....Meriden, Conn.

*ASSISTANT SECRETARY.*

THOMAS G. LEE, .....Rochester, N. Y.

*TREASURER.*

REV. A. L. LOVELAND, .....Granby, Conn.

*Voted*—To adopt the following resolutions :

The Lee family, at their first gathering and reunion, from their widely scattered homes in this great land, unanimously resolve, That their thanks are due, and are hereby heartily expressed, to their kindred. William Wallace Lee and William H. Lee, for their labor of love in bringing together so many of the members of the descendants of our ancestor, John Lee. of Farmington, thereby enabling them to form acquaintance and associations, the memory of which only end with the pulsations of life.

*Resolved*—That the reception and generous entertainment at the residence of William H. Lee, on the evening of the 5th of August, 1884, was characteristic of the proprietor and his estimable lady, and we are more than thankful to them for the conception and tender of such an opportunity of cultivating and cementing our kindred personal relations to them and to each other.

*Resolved*—That the thanks of this meeting are due, and they are hereby heartily tendered to such members of our great family as have entertained us with historical papers, and oral reminiscences of our kindred, during the several most pleasant and profitable sessions of this gathering, and that they be requested to place the matter of the same in the hands of the Permanent Secretary of this organization.

*Resolved*—That we gratefully appreciate the ability and fidelity with which we have been served by the officers of this gathering, for the kindly service of the public press in its daily record of our doings, and for the efforts of all our good and generous kindred in their zealous contributions to the enjoyment of this occasion.

A sketch of the life of Capt. Noah Lee, was next read by Frederic J. Lee, of Howell, Mich., which was followed by remarks by Rev. A. L. Loveland, of Granby, Conn.

*Voted*—That a resolution expressing regret at the sad misfortune suffered by Charlotte L. Hayes, of Granby, Conn., be prepared by Rev. A. L. Loveland.

*Voted*—To adopt the resolution as presented by A. L. Loveland.

#### RESOLUTION.

HARTFORD, Aug. 6, 1884.

The meeting of the Lee family, at its morning session, on learning of the serious accident which happened to our beloved kindred, Charlotte L. Hayes, authorized by public vote, that A. L. Loveland be instructed to draft resolutions expressive of their sympathy and great love for her character and virtues ; to transmit the same to her at the present place of her confinement, in the city hospital, of Hartford.

*Resolved*—That we tender to our beloved relative and friend, in the sorrow of her present great misfortune, our affectionate and entire sympathy, and would alleviate, as much as possible, her protracted sufferings, by any word that we may express, or any act of relief which we may be able to administer our sister, in the endearing ties of

friendly kindred personal acquaintance : we bear you in our memory, in our prayers, and shall be most glad to hear of your recovery and future happiness, to meet us again in our union on earth.

*Voted*—To take an excursion to Farmington this P. M.

Remarks were made by Rev. C. Russell Lee, of Thorold, Canada : and William Lee, of Marysville, Ohio, described the finding of the stone, marking the grave of John Lee, by Samuel Lee.

*Voted*—That a committee of three, in conjunction with the Secretary, be appointed to prepare and print the records of this meeting. Committee :

Thomas Lee,	Hartford,
L. P. Lee,	New Britain,
Rev. A. L. Loveland,	Granby.

A paper read by William Lee, of Marysville, Ohio, next followed :

*Voted*—That this meeting extend a vote of thanks to the President and Secretary, for the impartial and satisfactory manner in which they have conducted these exercises.

The meeting closed by the pronouncing of the Benediction by Rev. C. Russell Lee.

At 11:50 A. M. the meeting was declared dissolved.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. H. LEE, *Secretary*.

## OPENING MORNING.

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On the morning of August 5th, 1884, from 9 to 10 o'clock, the short distance between the United States Hotel and Allyn Hall was lined with our kin, on their way to the family gathering, and if the good people of Hartford halted, as they plodded their way to business, to note the unusual passing throng, their memory at once suggested that the daily papers had for a long time been announcing in pleasant terms, that the Lee's were about to capture the Capital, and these must be the advance guard. The greetings of the evening before at the hotel were renewed, and the groups in Allyn Hall gave promise of a pleasant and marked occasion. As soon as the company had assembled, Wm. Wallace Lee, of Meriden, called the gathering to order, and at once a

### *TEMPORARY ORGANIZATION*

was perfected by the choice of Gad Henry Lee, of Waterford, N. Y., as Temporary President, and Bernard A. Lee, of Minn., Temporary Secretary, and then the meeting was open for business, the first transacted being to proceed to

### *PERMANENT ORGANIZATION*

which was done in a business-like manner, the meeting authorizing the Chair to name a committee of five to report permanent officers. For that committee the Chair named:

LEONARD LEE,.....	Kenosha, Wis.,
A. N. LEE, .....	Chicago, Ill.,
L. P. LEE,.....	New Britain, Conn.,
J. W. N. LEE,.....	Duplex, Tenn.,
CHARLES E. LEE,.....	Rochester, N. Y.

The committee of five were prompt, and soon reported to the wait-

ing meeting, the report being accepted and unanimously adopted, the following list of

### PERMANENT OFFICERS.

#### *PRESIDENT.*

WILLIAM WALLACE LEE, ..... Meriden, Conn.

#### *VICE-PRESIDENTS.*

WILLIAM H. LEE, ..... New York,

ANDREW FRINK LEE, ..... Buffalo, N. Y.,

LORENZO P. LEE, SR., ..... New Britain, Conn.,

RICHARD H. LEE, ..... Spring Hill, Kan.,

HEZEKIAH F. LEE, ..... Binghampton, N. Y.,

WILLIAM LEE, ..... Marysville, Ohio.

#### *SECRETARY.*

WILLIAM H. LEE, ..... Tewksbury, Mass.

#### *ASSISTANT SECRETARY.*

CHAS. NORTHAM LEE, ..... New York.

#### *REGISTRAR.*

THOMAS GOODRICH LEE, ..... New York.

#### *TREASURER.*

CHARLES E. LEE, ..... Rochester, N. Y.

President Lee, on being escorted to the chair, invited Rev. C. Russell Lee, of Thorold, Ont., Canada, to invoke Divine Grace on the proceedings; and the scene was an impressive one, as the full voice of the man of God poured out the simple words of the Lord's Prayer, the gathering rising, and following him in the familiar words they had learned in childhood. When the prayer closed, and the audience was seated, the President delivered the following

### ADDRESS OF WELCOME,

[BY WM. WALLACE LEE, OF MERIDEN, CONN.]

#### *Friends and Kindred:*

Responding to the call, or, perhaps, I should more properly say, invitation of members of our common family, you have come together, some of you, doubtless, at much sacrifice and after many weary miles of travel, to spend a few hours in listening to what has thus far been learned of our common family history, to gather up as best we may the scattered threads of the past: but with this idea is also the hope and purpose to know each other better than we have ever done before; to take each other by the hand; to look each other in the eye; to hear voices that sound strangely in our ears; and I trust to form friendships and acquaintances that will continue beyond this mortal life.

Vast distances in miles separate those who trace to a common ancestor, and numerous families of John Lee's descendants have never heard of other equally numerous families, in whose veins the same blood has run for generations. And yet, how few there are here of all of those in whose blood runs the blood of that English boy who, 250 years ago, left his home and friends for a life in the new and almost untried world, never again to see any of his kindred: to live in a land of strangers; here to found his family, and here to die. Here, in what was then a frontier settlement, he found a home, and grew to manhood; and we, his descendants, have come to commemorate that event, and to rejoice in the blessings that have come to us, and recognize in it all the guiding hand of Him from whom all our blessings come.

As I have said, many of you have come from a great distance, and probably there are some present who have never before trod the soil of the State, which, as an infant colony, John Lee helped to found. Right well and royally did he and his associates do their work. We are the inheritors of all that they won, in the way of civil and religious liberty, and with grateful hearts to God for life and all its blessings, invoke His guidance in the future. Would it be thought presumptuous in me to say a few words of welcome to those who have never gathered together before as common kindred?

Pardon me if it seems so to you, but within thirty miles of where we are assembled, lie buried my whole ancestral line back to John Lee, and all those who have died of the single family to which I belong, except one who lies on a Southern battle-field, but no man living knows the spot. I feel that I have an inborn right, then, to speak and say to you, and especially those who have come from distant homes: Welcome to you all! welcome to the State which John Lee helped to found! welcome to the State which his sons helped to defend, as loyal subjects of the King in the old French War! Welcome to the State which his grandsons helped in the field to make an independent State, and eventually to become an integral part of one of the mighty nations of the earth!

I find that our kindred have fought and died in every war, since John Lee came to years of manhood. Men can give no better proof of loyalty and devotion to duty. I find, as I turn the historic pages, that his posterity have been often found in our legislative halls as well as upon the battle field. All along the page of our history I find glowing examples of lives well spent, and even cheerfully sacrificed, at the call of duty.

I fondly hope that our meeting will be one of pleasure and profit;



that as we turn the pages and read the record of the past, our hearts will kindle anew with patriotic fire ; our faith in God and fellow men be rekindled, and we all be made better men and women by this, our first gathering, of the descendants of the pioneer boy, John Lee, of Farmington.

In closing, I say again to you, welcome to this busy city : to our State, our hearts, and our homes. Welcome, thrice welcome.

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The address of welcome was frequently interrupted with applause, which was vigorously renewed at the close. When the President renewed his seat, a touching hymn was sung. It was written for the occasion, by Miss Myra Lee Howard, of Hartford. The striking words and beautiful air filled the company with animation, and called forth deserved praise for the authoress of the poetic gem.

### MISS HOWARD'S HYMN.

TUNE—*Ortonville.*

Full many a year has now rolled by  
 Since first on this fair land,  
 Our Ancestor, a manly boy,  
 Thou leddest by Thy hand.

And we, his children, now have come  
 To bless Thee, gracious God,  
 To thank Thee that our forefathers  
 In Thy straight paths have trod.

Gathered throughout this wondrous land,  
 To God we praises sing,  
 To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
 Our thankful hearts we bring.

O Lord, we thank Thee for Thy grace,  
 For mercies we've received,  
 For blessings showered on our heads,  
 For faith in time of need.

From poetry, the gathering drifted to prose, and having already been treated to prayer, speech and song, the observing Secretary varied the proceedings by reading a number of letters of regret from absentees, which were full of interest, and recalled many pleasant occasions to mind, but as letters of these character were read at different sessions, they will be omitted here, and grouped together later on, thus enabling the compiler to keep all the departments in the most convenient form.

After the reading of these letters, Wm. Lee, of Marysville, O., was introduced, and delivered an interesting paper on the descendants of John Lee, of Farmington, as follows :

PAPER  
READ BY  
WILLIAM LEE,  
OF MARYSVILLE, UNION COUNTY, OHIO.

*Six successive generations bearing the name John—all following the occupation of Farmers, and none moving far away from the home of John First.*

In that branch of the Lee family descended from John Lee 1st, through his first-born son, and the first-born son of succeeding generations, the name John passes down essentially in regular succession to John of the fourth generation, when the name was given to the third son, and through him to his second son.

John Lee 1st and John 2d had their residences in Farmington, and were farmers.

John 3d died at an early age, and the second son was named Jonathan—a name very similar, both in its import and its sound to the ear; John signifying, the grace or mercy of the Lord: Jonathan, given of God—hence, it is assumed, that the succession of the name John was essentially regular.

He, (Jonathan 3d), removed to the “great swamp” lands, situated in what was then called Kensington, about eight miles southeast of Farmington. These lands were conveyed to him by his father, (John 2d), and specifically included what was designated as the “Island,” a small tract a little elevated above the general level of the lands surrounding. Here he made his home for the remainder of his life, and lived to the age of 70 years. Here also his first-born son, who reached the age of manhood, John 4th, lived until his decease, at the age of 70. Both of them were farmers.

Here John 5th was also born, and lived for some years after his marriage; but subsequently removed to the southwest part of Kensington, in what was called “Blue Hills,” a region of irregular, narrow valleys, winding among high hills, with a range of mountains on the west—a range which terminated abruptly not far south, at an elevation 1,000 feet or more, on the east side of which, at this point, are several mountains of short length, north and south, with gorges between them, admitting of carriage roads, one of which is much travelled, and known as the “cat hole” road. These mountainous elevations, as seen from the north, seem as if a *blue light* were cast upon them; hence the name, “Blue Hills.”

John 5th lived upon his farm in this picturesque region, until his decease at 67 years of age. In this connection it is pertinent to mention, than John 4th had three sons, (Samuel, Orren and John); that all three removed to farms quite near each other, in the “Blue Hills” region, situated about six miles southwest from the “great swamp” lands of Kensington, and twelve miles south of Farmington.

Samuel Lee died at a comparatively early age, leaving two children, Laura and Samuel; and his widow, subsequently marrying, removed to Westfield, and the farm passed into other hands.

Orren Lee did not remain long in this locality, but sold his farm and removed to Granby.

At the decease of John 5th, his son John 6th came into possession of the farm which had been his father's, and here remained until his decease, in 1864, at the age of 70 years.

On the decease of John 6th, the last one passed away bearing the name John, in this line of descent, from John Lee first, and the last one of the regular succession of farmers of the name of Lee in that limited section of country in which the localities mentioned are situated.

From the date at which John Lee 1st settled in Farmington (1641), to the decease of John 6th, in 1864, is a period of 223 years. It is remarkable that, of these six, four just completed the long term of human life. "three score and ten" years: one lived to the age of 63, and one to the age of 67.

The writer of this sketch is the third son of John 5th, and lived with his parents on the farm homestead, in sight of the mountainous "Blue Hills," until past sixteen years of age; and he is now the only one living of the sixth generation, in this line of descent.

Fifty-seven years have gone by since leaving this country home and his childhood. Recalling these scenes, he cannot forbear saying, that the scenes of the landscape, as seen from that home, is drawn and painted upon the tablets of his memory in indelible lines and colorings.

He has little to say of the personal history of any one of the six, whose names and places of residence have been mentioned.

Six generations are to be viewed as having spent their lives as farmers of moderate means, unambitious of distinction; with no migratory impulses to seek other spheres of enterprise, no one removing permanently away from the home of the first more than twelve miles, in a period of 223 years. Nearly all were active members of Christian churches, and some were deacons. Some were captains or lieutenants of the local militia, and some were chosen representatives in the State legislature. All were patriots and true men, unstained by crimes or vices; and all were respected and honored for their Christian and manly virtues.

That they were of a contemplative cast of mind cannot be doubted; that they were not so inquisitive as to render them restless to extend the sphere of their knowledge, and the field of their contemplation would seem apparent; but there is good reason to believe that, while they were content to live amid the quiet and secluded rural scenes where their lot was cast, they regarded the life they were living as preliminary to a higher and heavenly life, and that they had the faith, and the earnest aspiration, and the confident hope, of going to a "city whose builder and maker is God, eternal in the heavens."

If it should be said in their praise, that their dominant aspirations relative to their earthly life were for "Godliness with contentment," there is some evidence that such commendation would be appropriate. It would, perhaps, have been more commendable, if they had sought and obtained more of intellectual culture; but their circumstances did not

favor it: their lot, as cast for them, did not seem to demand it, nor did their ambitions or proclivities impel them to it. A quiet, peaceful life was doubtless more congenial to them. Fond of home, and home scenes, affectionate and sympathetic, they naturally avoided scenes and associations, in which emulation, antagonism and strife would have disturbed the serenity of their tempers, and called into exercise the sterner elements of their natures.

But they were not men to be trampled upon with impunity. Defensively, they were strong and prompt: and as ready for the defense of others, whose rights were invaded, as for the defense of themselves.

The writer might give examples illustrative of these characteristics, but it is not his purpose to present individual personal histories, or to enter much into the details of personal life. An exception, however, will be made, so far as to say that the first of this branch of the Lee family, who sought and obtained a collegiate education, was Rev. Samuel Lee, of the sixth generation, son of Samuel the fifth, son of John 4th; and he followed his collegiate, with a theological course of study, and entered upon the work of the Christian ministry, to which he devoted the greater part of his life, with eminent usefulness and honor; evincing with the genial, social nature, and other personal traits, which qualified him for the pastoral relation, very great powers of mind, as an able and instructive preacher, both in his written and extempore discourses. Two published works of his, "Eschatology," and "The Bible Required," furnish evidence of his original and independent thought; of his vigorous style as a writer, and his scholarly acquirements, in the department of Biblical and theological knowledge.

In this connection, the writer takes occasion to express his gratification with the fact, that this branch of the descendants of John Lee 1st have furnished a goodly number of liberally educated men, and that these have generally devoted their lives to the Christian ministry, or the medical profession, thus seeking, with their cultivated powers, to confer the greater benefits upon their fellow men. It follows, of course, that those who have been liberally educated for professional life, have evinced, through their mental culture, an efflorescence and fruitage of intellectual development, which does not appear so much in those who have, with a limited education, devoted themselves to mercantile, or mechanical, or agricultural pursuits.

As the writer is not of the liberally educated class, he feels at liberty to, and takes pleasure in, thus characterizing those who have had the advantages of liberal educational culture.

#### SUPPLEMENT.

*Note relative to Orren Lee, of Granby, Conn., furnished with manuscript of foregoing paper.*

The writer desires to add a statement relative to Orren Lee, of Granby, Conn., mentioned in the foregoing as one of the sons of John Lee 4th, of Kensington.

In the summer of 1833, the writer, then residing in Troy, N. Y., made

a pedestrian trip to Connecticut, accompanied by two young friends near his own age, and on that trip made a short visit at Granby, and were the guests of the writer's uncle, the Orren Lee referred to.

It will present some of the characteristics of this member of the Lee family in an interesting light, to state the following facts relative to this visit:

The companions of the writer were intelligent, and had been educated to strict "orthodox" views in religious matters; one was a theological student, and the other a member of a Presbyterian church, and the son of an elder in that church: both were most accustomed to city ways and manners.

They had never seen the man whose guests they were to be; and all they knew of him was, that he was the writer's uncle, living as a country farmer, and that he professed a religious faith which was not regarded as "orthodox:" they were, therefore, likely to observe quite critically his manners and spirit. The result was, that they left with deep impressions of respect and admiration for the bearing and character of the man.

His hospitality was so cordial; his social character so genial and engaging; his manners so dignified and refined; his religious spirit so fervent and devout, with great cheerfulness super-added; so that, he presented a rare combination of traits and qualities: and it was the more remarkable and surprising to these young men, because he was then nearly seventy-three years old.

These friends of the writer are still both living; one is the pastor of a Congregational church in Connecticut, to which church he has ministered for nearly fifty years; the other is the president of one of the National Banks in the City of New York.

For a period of about thirty years after the visit to Granby, the writer frequently met these friends, and many times they referred to that visit, and gave emphatic expression to their respect and admiration for Orren Lee, of Granby.

The paper just read was pronounced an able production, and elicited the warmest encomiums for our kinsman, the author, and the gathering were delighted when it received an assurance from him, that he would be further heard from before the close.

"Our English Origin," was a theme not very widely, or at least, not as fully and intelligently understood by our kin as was desirable, and when it was first mooted, and then understood, that our kinsman, William Henry Lee, of New York, was to present a paper on that subject, the interest became materially heightened, and there was a general examination of time pieces to note if there was sufficient time to hear it through, before rising for dinner. It was found that the time was ample, and Mr. Lee was introduced, and delivered the following paper:

## OUR ENGLISH ORIGIN,

By WILLIAM HENRY LEE, of New York.

The enquiry so often made, as to whether there are evidences showing the origin of our ancestor, John Lee, and as to whether he may not have been of the noble and historic family of that name, prominent in the annals of England, as adherents and followers of the Stuarts in their varied fortunes, is one that naturally interests us all, but which cannot now be definitely determined.

Something has been done, however, solely with the view of ascertaining the parentage of our ancestor; and it is this and other observations, having a bearing upon this subject-matter, to which I would direct your attention in this brief paper, giving, so far as possible, the data from which the researches have been made, although we regret to have to write, there is nothing, as yet, satisfactory or final; but we are not without hopes of ultimate success.

Before entering upon a discussion of the futile efforts that have been made in that direction, and for the benefit of those present not familiar with the situation, I would call attention to the fact, that, whereas the nativity of our ancestor has always been traditionally regarded as of Colchester, England; it was not until within a few years that we have had documentary proof, that would be accepted by professional genealogists of England, as ample and sufficient to justify them in advising the expense attending a search with any hope of success; it being one of the pre-requisites that there must be furnished proof as to the native town of the emigrant and the year of departure; and this evidence, something more than uncertain tradition handed down through the several generations of a family.

Happily we have the tradition confirmed, by the discovery of an old manuscript, written by Seth Lee, in the form of a diary, commencing about the middle of the last century, when a student in Yale College. The writer of the manuscript was a greatgrandson of the first settler, and must have had constant intercourse with David, the youngest son of John (I), and was 23 years of age when David died, in 1759, at Lebanon, Ct., aged 85 years, full of honors.

The manuscript referred to was found in the possession of one of the female descendants of David, in the work of gathering materials for the published pedigree of the family, by Miss Lee, of Norwich, to whom and her honored father, Dr. Charles Lee, we are indebted for the valued compilation of the genealogy.

The original manuscript, of 101 pages, was written in a clear and

scholarly hand, but in parts so faded by time and exposure, that I have had a *fac simile* copy, made by an expert in such matters, and which is now before us, with the certification of the copyist, as to its being a faithful reproduction of the original paper. The writer, Seth Lee, makes the following record :

“ John Lee (I), was sent by his father from Colchester, England, to America, with the early emigrants to this country. His father designed following with the rest of his family ; but for some reason never came, and it is said, John never heard much of them.”

This settles all doubts as to John being of Colchester, and also that of his having a “ father and family ” living at that town, when he emigrated.

We cannot but express our disappointment and regrets, that the chronicler did not then give us the name and particulars of the parents of John ; but this is to be accounted for in the changed condition of things, and also in the absence of all reference to family history noticed in almost everything that was written or published, by the forefathers or their descendants, in the colonial period of New England.

In the summer of 1881, I found it convenient to visit England, and with the copy of the record of Seth Lee and letters of introduction, I called on Col. Joseph L. Chester, of London, a graduate of Columbia College, New York ; a D. C. L., of Oxford ; a native of Connecticut, and then in all respects the best authority upon genealogical matters, pertaining to the early settlers of the New England colonies.

I submitted to him, for his examination and report, my papers, and in a carefully prepared letter, he writes that, “ in his opinion, it will be found that our ancestor is of a Shropshire branch of the name, which dates back to the 14th Century in the time of Edward III,” and noted, in the printed records, as “ of Lee Hall, in the Parish of Wib-enbury, in the County Palatine, of Chester, whose ancestors have been there for ages.”\*

In my several interviews with Col. Chester, he made known to me his manner of collecting family records, and the results of his labors in England, where he had then given to this, his chosen profession, over twenty years exclusive service, and mostly in behalf of the early New England ancestors. His library walls were filled with volumes of matter, arranged by counties, all written by himself, in person, and containing, for example,—as he showed me—the references of the Lee's of the county of Essex, in which were four lines of Index numbers of what he had gathered of our name, coming within the years of

\* The family is of Norman origin, and came over with William the Conqueror, and are sometimes referred to as “ The Lee's or Leigh's of High Lee and Lyme in Cheshire.”

the 17th century, prior to 1660, within which period the settlements of New England were mostly made.

I met with an unexpected embarrassment, in my visit to Col. Chester, in having previously retained, some few years ago, to work up our record, the Rev. Frederick George Lee, a distinguished clergyman of the Established church, in London, and himself a genealogist of note, especially of his own family ; but without the special facilities of Col. Chester, who had been graciously granted, by the Crown, free access to all archives of the government depositories of records, without the customary fixed charges or the espionage found necessary to prevent mutilation or theft, and this given in acknowledgment of the valued services Col. Chester had rendered the State in the pursuit of controverted questions of genealogy, and which were by him settled, without doubt or the dissent of those who had, through a life-time, been unable to solve the queries. The embarrassment referred to was, that professional courtesy forbade Col. Chester taking our case in hand, so long as Dr. Lee had it for us ; nor could I ask the latter to relinquish it, after a correspondence of several years duration, and the many kind and thoughtful attentions we had received from him, both in our endeavors to find the link, which would connect our ancestor with his English origin, and in the social attentions he so graciously bestowed.

Col. Chester died the summer following, and we beg leave to call your attention to a biographical notice of him, in the last January number of the " New England Historical and Genealogical Register," published in Boston, that you may see how highly he was esteemed by the English worthies, in his life-time.

It is not to be expected that the English people of the present day should, of their own motion, make special efforts to find the sources from which the settlers of that day came ; but it is due to them to write, that there is now, more than ever, a cheerful willingness to give to antiquarians, access to the archives of the government. Through Col. Chester, and the influence of the late Dean Stanley, and others, who were patrons and friends of the American Genealogist, there has been made accessible, with certain restrictions, " The Westminster Abbey Registers," " The Matriculation Records, of Oxford," " The Marriage Allegations of the Bishops," " The Doctors' Commons," (the famous Depository of Wills,) " The Somerset House" and " The British Museum ;" and from these Col. Chester has carefully made notes of everything relating to the names—known as New England settlers—covering the period from 1600 to 1660 ; and these, with his records of births, marriages, deaths and the visitations of the Parish Reg-



isters of the Kingdom, form the substance of what he relies upon in his investigations, and are comprised in 87 closely-written manuscript folio volumes.

In addition to these, the muniments of the family collections, so long kept as inviolate—or not intended for the public eye—are gradually being opened to literary inquirers; and these, it is thought, will furnish important clues to much of family history, that is now obscure and uncertain.

Through Dr. Lee, of London, there have been made, at intervals, some interesting discoveries of the Lee's of Essex, one of which is a copy of a manuscript in the possession of one of his family, and which can be seen by those curious in these records.

The other printed pedigrees exhibited are of the different branches of the family of which he is a member, and it may interest you to have me read you something of the family of England, all of which is a part of the history of the times from the Conquest, and probably quite familiar to many of those present.

The Lee's have, as a family, been known as Tories and Churchmen, and supporters of the reigning families of England: first, of the Plantagenets, and then of the Tudors, the Stuarts and so, down to the dynasty of to-day, and they are now most loyal and loving subjects of Queen Victoria and the Royal family. They have had bestowed upon them lands and titles, in these different reigns, and as a matter of course, were not in sympathy with the Protectorate of Cromwell or with the Puritans, who settled New England.

In the year 1674, King Charles II, created Sir Edward Henry Lee, Earl of Lichfield, and conferred on him valuable estates. The title and estates descended to his eldest son, the second earl, and with him not having male heirs, the title became extinct, and the estates are now in possession of a descendant in the female line, Lord Arthur Lee Dillon, whose grandfather, an Irish peer, married the eldest daughter of the 2d Earl of Lichfield, and who has assumed the name of Lee, and in possession of the estate of Ditchley, Oxfordshire. It is to this nobleman, Dr. William Lee, of Washington, refers in his letter which has been read, as probably having in his possession papers respecting the emigration to New England, and which, if made public, would throw light upon the origin of the three or four of the name who settled that coast in the times of which we are writing, and of whose English connection there is little or nothing known.

A few words as to the *personnel* of those who were the settlers of the Hartford Colony, and with whom during his minority our ancestor lived and was educated, and from whom, we may properly

assume, he received the impress which gave direction, not alone to his own character, but to his succession, even to this generation. The settlers, so far as known, were mostly, but not all, from Essex County. They had emigrated and settled in Newtown, (now Cambridge) in the Massachusetts Colony, and there organized an independent religious body, with the Rev. Thomas Hooker as minister. Hooker had, as a curate of a parish in Clemsford, as early as 1629, been engaged in the theological warfare with the "Divine right" and "unlimited prerogative" dogmas of those turbulent times, and had with others been silenced for non-conformity to the rites and worship of the Established church, and in after years as a leader of the Separatists, had the reputation "of a most eloquent preacher, a wise counsellor, a discerning and far-sighted statesman." He had in Samuel Stone, who like himself, was graduated from Cambridge, an able assistant, and one possessing the requisite qualities of mind for the enterprises proposed, and with about one hundred persons, and the equipments necessary, they planned the emigration to this colony so graphically described by the friendly sachems as "the fertile lands upon the borders of the great river." A few of the band preceded the great body of the company in the autumn of 1634, who with Hooker and Stone left the Massachusetts Colony in June of the following year, and were some two weeks on their journey. They made purchase by deed of the land, which was substantially what is now the limits of the city, and formed friendly relations with the neighboring tribes, with whom they carried on extensive trading, doubtless to their mutual advantage. There had been almost simultaneously, or some months previously, small settlements at both Windsor and Wethersfield, above and below Hartford, and these three townships, as they were shortly called, comprised the new colony, and each, by town meetings respectively held, sent their representatives to the first General Court, held at Hartford, April 26, 1636. The two members of this court from Hartford were John Steele and William Westwood. We cannot more than simply refer to a few of the leaders in this the commencement of a settlement which was so important in its future influence in the establishment of both civil and religious liberty. There were of the Colony, John Haynes, Edmund Hopkins, George Wyllys, and Thomas Welles, the first having served as governor of Massachusetts, and then with the others each filled the same office in Connecticut. Then there were William Westwood, Stephen Hart, Matthew Allyn, William Whiting, John Talcott, Richard Lord, John Pratt, Timothy Standley, Edward Stebbens, Roger Ludlow, Henry Wolcott, and others; men of rare

culture, ability and personal worth, as well as each being endowed, for that day, with ample worldly possessions. The remainder comprised merchants, traders, handicraftsmen, farmers, etc., all selected as it seems, with reference to being independent, and to the furtherance of the objects proposed in their conference at Cambridge. They at once proceeded to the drafting of a written Constitution, one that subsequently was adopted by the other States as a model, and which was put in form in 1638, and in force the following year. They had in the mean time erected a meeting house, built upon the southerly end of what is now the City Hall Square, and in the same year opened a CLASSICAL school, which has as its legitimate succession, that department of the well-known Public High School of that city, and is one of the oldest continuous educational institutions in New England, and which has co-existence with the founding of Harvard College in 1638. The school was eminent in the colonial days in the preparation of youth for college, and was patronized by the wealthy families of this and other Colonies, and was early endowed with rich bequests by several of the settlers. The inference we draw as more than probable, is that John Lee, then in his 17th year, was among its first pupils, and that in all probability the classically educated Samuel Stone, then recorded as an assistant and teacher to the Rev. Thomas Hooker, was the Head Master. The settlers, who had for two years, and during their organization, lived in common, now began to open highways and streets, and sub-divided the lands among themselves, some taking house lots and some farms, which division was made according to their respective standing, rank and wealth, and by reference to Porter's map of Hartford, as in 1640, it is interesting to note the plots of Stephen Hart and William Westwood adjoining, prominently located on the westerly side of Front near its intersection with Morgan street of this day, bounded easterly by the great river. Here then lived our ancestor as a ward of Westwood, and next neighbor of Hart until he was twenty-one years of age.

There is much that could be written with reference to these settlers, would space permit. That they had as a primary object the establishment of a community where they could worship God as their consciences dictated is clear and acknowledged. The policy laid down, both in their civil and religious orders, was, that the will of the people was the source from which they derived their power; but in accessions from outside, they were careful as to receiving those not in harmony with themselves, or who could not help to contribute to their prosperity, and only those were admitted in fellowship who were first taken on probation, and then accepted by a vote of the

inhabitants of the town convened, and these ordinances with modifications were in force within the memory of those now living. In other words, there was an exclusiveness in their government that was exceptional as to the Colonies, and it appears there was never any attempt to interfere with the acts of the General Court, or with their chartered rights granted by the home government, until the futile efforts of Sir Edmund Andros, in 1687, were made, and defeated, and which have become a part of the history of the Colony, and made "Charter Oak" forever renowned as the depository of the precious parchment granted the Colony by Charles II, through the agency of Gov. John Winthrop, in 1662.

Here was a Colony of native born Britons, professedly purely democratic, but it must be confessed, in its working, not such as we define the democracy of the present day, but with the old leaven of autocracy, both in their administration, and in their social life and habits. The law of precedence, for example, was observed in their daily intercourse with each other, and in their sittings in the house of worship, and they were in the habit of outwardly showing that profound deference of rank and authority, which seems inherent with the Anglo-Saxon race, but which has been sadly departed from in these days of mixed nationalities. It is hardly possible that the settlers were actuated, as has been popularly supposed, alone by a great moral sentiment, independent of any thought as to the material benefits they would be able to hand down and perpetuate to their families. To accept of such conclusions, as regards their motives, would be to pervert the truth of history, and to deny them their habits of thrift and the principles they have inculcated and transmitted to their descendants, and which have been the impelling force in opening new and untried fields of enterprise and given to the succeeding generations their character, as pioneers and promoters of great and good works, which have in themselves the elements of gain, as well as the more important consideration--the welfare and happiness of mankind.

Of those bearing our name, and settlers in America prior to the restoration of King Charles II, in 1660, there were, so far as we can find, but four or five that have perpetuated the family name, and these we will refer to in the order of their emigration:

1st—John Lee (Leigh), who settled in Agawam, (now Ipswich), in 1632.

2d—John Lee, who settled in Hartford in 1635, and Farmington, 1641.

3d—Thomas Lee, who died on his passage to this country, leaving a wife and children, and through the male line perpetuated the name, they having settled at Saybrook in 1641.

4th—Richard Lee, who settled upon the James River, in Virginia, in 1641, and was the ancestor of those of the name in that State.

5th—Thomas Lee, of whom the earliest records seem to be about 1700, and whose descendants are known variously as the Boston, Braintree or Salem Lee's.

Each of these settlers has left a large succession, and it is pleasant to be able to write that they have each left honored names, that have in their respective spheres filled places of responsibility and usefulness.

Of the five separate heads mentioned, the descendants of none can, with certainty, trace their English origin, except, Richard, of Virginia, who was a direct descendant of the Ditchly family, as noted in the printed pedigree before you, showing his connection with the main trunk, and marked by Dr. Lee, of London, who furnished me with this and other valuable copies of the pedigrees of the different branches of his family.

The absence of information, as to the origin of the New England ancestors, is supposed to be due to the hostile attitude, engendered by the religious war, extending through so long a period of time, and to the fact that the emigrants actually suppressed, rather than promulgated, their family history, and all the records which would give their posterity the means of establishing their connection.

On the other hand, there was apparently little done by the authorities of the Home Government, to preserve or keep intact the records of those who left their shores for New England. This opinion seems to be strengthened, when it is considered that not more than one-twentieth (1-20) of the descendants of those who emigrated from England, in the period mentioned, and have ventured upon the task, have been successful in tracing their English connection. It is all important, also, that we should not forget the hardships, which the early settlers had to encounter and that, for several generations, they were more concerned, as to how they were to live through the severe winters, of a bleak and trying coast, than as to the preservation, for their descendants, of family records and mementoes.

The whole number, settling in New England, from 1630 to 1640, was only about 18,000. Very few comparatively came prior to the first mentioned year; scarcely any after the last, or until after the rebellion of 1690.\*

There has, of late years, been a marked change, on the part of the people of our Mother-Country, in their estimate of the motives and the character of the New England settlers of that period;

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\* The arrivals at the port of New York alone, in 1884, have many weeks exceeded the whole number of that period.

and modern historians have accorded them the distinction: that in family antecedents, education, rank, and wealth *per capita*, there never was a colony that surpassed those who were the founders of New England.

There is one other branch of the English family, known as the Buckinghamshire and Quarendon Lee's, in possession of "Hartwell," in the County Bucks, which is palatial in all its appointments; as it is interesting in its antiquity, and in its valuable collections of family portraits, by eminent painters, such as Sir Peter Lely, Sir Joshua Reynolds and others. This Estate has been in possession of the Lee's since 1617, and was the residence, during his exile of six years, of Louis XVIII, with his Queen and a large suite of attendants, and now is the Estate of Major Lee, a gentleman about forty years of age.\*

We have written of the Lee's of England as a part of the history of a family, that for more than 500 years has occupied positions of prominence in the social and political annals of England, and of some, as it is seen, whose titles have become extinct, and of others, whose estates have passed into possession of collateral heirs. The Earldom of Lichfield is extinct; but the Baronetcy, dating back to the reign of King James I, is *de jure*, my reverend correspondent's; he being descended directly from Francis Henry Lee, brother of the first peer.

They, of the present day, are many of them in church orders, officers of the army and navy, or filling responsible places in the civil service of the government; all maintaining a high standing and reputation; but doubtless, many of the younger members, at least, with slender means and livings.

While I regard it as a matter of interest, that we, of New England, should endeavor to ascertain our English connection, I consider there is much more in our own pedigree of 250 years to awaken us to the importance of preserving the memory of those we know to be the descendants of John Lee, the settler, and to encourage the present generations to a higher social and moral advancement; and more than all, that we may, in this, leave behind us a record of good citizenship, in the walks of life, to which we are respectively called, and to our own posterity bright examples of Christian virtue and sobriety.

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\* The Hartwell family have, in either the male or female line, been in possession of this estate since about 1268. The historian, Mr. Brown Willis, writes: "But few parishes I have ever met with can show for so long a series, viz: upward of 500 years, such an uninterrupted possession of an estate, which has never been alienated, otherwise than as it has passed in marriage, or failure of issue male; wherefore it may still be said to continue in the same family."

*THE "PAPER" FINISHED.*

After the reading closed there was only one opinion regarding the Paper—of praise, not only for the value of its literary composition, but for the valuable information contained therein.

The hour of noon having been past, and all feeling that they had enjoyed a feast of prayer, song and story, their thoughts naturally turned to the inner man, and the hotels, and a recess for dinner was ordered, until 1:30, giving an hour for the enjoyment of the noon meal.

*THE RECESS*

went the way of all such recesses. Complimentary comments on the morning proceedings, praise for the chief actors, who so substantially entertained the gathering, and declarations of pleasure and gladness for coming by those who hesitated, and discussing the bountiful dinner served at the hotels—all helped to while away the time, and awaken a new interest in the afternoon and other sessions.

*AFTERNOON SESSION.*

Although the adjournment was until 1:30, it was an hour later before the meeting came to order, for time flies at these social gatherings, and this one was no exception. Indeed, our kin were glad of the opportunity to become more closely acquainted, coming as they did from States great distances apart, and many of them not having met for a generation, and some only for the first time. It was, for these reasons, 2:30 when the President's gavel fell, and the informal conversations were suspended, and the session opened. The exercises were varied for more than half an hour, more letters of regret having been read, and various Committees raised, as will be seen by reference to the Secretary's report. One was with reference to having a photograph of the gathering made; another to consider the question of an excursion to Farmington—the home of their ancestor, John Lee; others relative to a permanent association, and a second day's session, all of which were referred to Committees, who took suitable action. These miscellaneous matters having been disposed of, the solid work of the session was resumed. A paper was read by William Wallace Lee, of Meriden, as follows:

PAPER  
READ BY  
WILLIAM WALLACE LEE,  
OF MERIDEN, CONN.

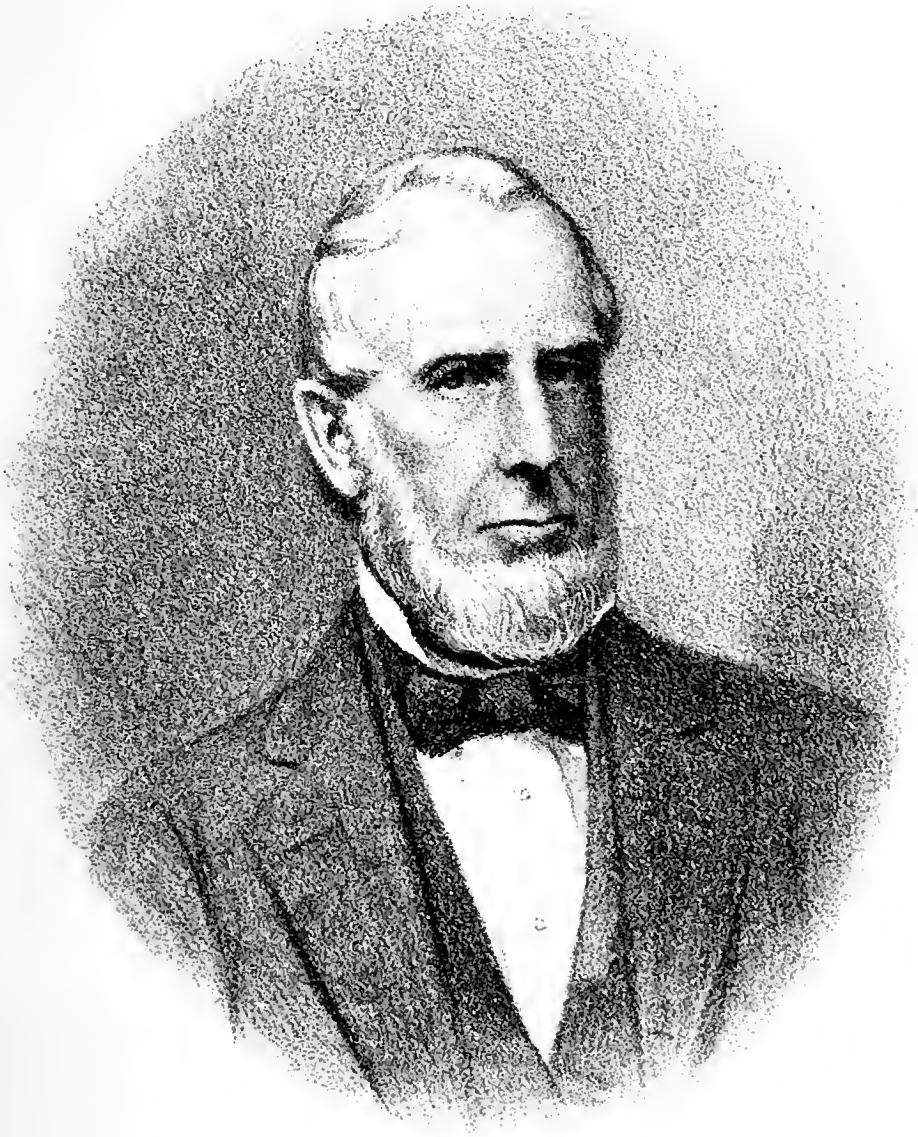
*Detailing the Plans for the Gathering, and Embracing a Brief Sketch of the  
Lee Family.*

HISTORICAL SUMMARY.

In the first circular of inquiry which was sent out in reference to this gathering a very brief outline history of John Lee and his six children was given, and probably by nine-tenths of his living descendants what was stated in that circular is all that they know about the Lee family of which we are members, except of the separate family branches to which they belong. As one great object of our present gathering is to stimulate a spirit of inquiry and arouse an interest in genealogical research, perhaps this object would be advanced somewhat if those who are here could learn what has already been accomplished in that direction. Bear with me for a little time as I briefly rehearse a story which to some few of us may seem trite and commonplace, remembering that what is old to us is just as new to others as it was to us when we first heard it from the lips of others. For more than 200 years after his settlement in Farmington no effort was made in any systematic way to obtain a history of the descendants of John Lee, except the memoranda made by Seth Lee, and the brief record which some families had made in their family Bibles until the year 1850 had passed, when Deacon Charles Lee, of Norwich, Conn., a native of Windham, and Rev. Samuel Lee, of New Ipswich, N. H., a native of Berlin, Conn., both descendants of John, Jr., commenced the work of gathering up the scattered threads of the different branches and weaving them into a family history. When we consider the difficulties under which they labored (for no one can appreciate the difficulties of such an undertaking until they have some experience in the same line of investigation) we must say that their success was highly gratifying, although there were many "missing links" in the work which they gave to the world.

Since the work was published in 1878, considerable additional information has been gathered which will find its proper place, we hope, when a new edition shall appear. Each and all of us are under a great debt of gratitude to those I have mentioned, and also to Miss Sarah Marsh Lee, of Norwich, Conn., who took up the work which was dropped from the dying hands of her father, Deacon Charles Lee, in 1865, and assisted by the good counsel of other members of our common family pushed the work forward to its completion.





*Dea. Charles Lee.*

NORWICH, CONN.



Those of you who have the work will here bear witness to the truth of what I say. I wish a copy of that work were in every one of our separate families, and respectfully urge upon all who feel that they can do so without injustice to themselves that they procure a copy. Of course such works are much more costly than an ordinary book, or handsomely bound poetical work, because it takes a long time to gather such material, and the necessity of being correct in names and dates involves careful work in composition, with frequent corrections and revisions in reading proof. And again, such works must necessarily have a comparatively limited circulation, because few buy such a book unless they are personally interested by family connections or having a taste for historical research.

A very earnest desire has been expressed by some to obtain, so far as possible, a list of the posterity of John Lee, and I have devoted some portion of my time in that direction, but remembering the recipe of Miss Sarah Gamp for cooking a rabbit that "the first thing necessary was to catch the rabbit," my main effort has been to first find the posterity before I obtained their names.

The object of this gathering was suggested, or rather grew out of correspondence with William Henry Lee, of New York; Leonard Lee, of Kenosha, Wis.; Richard Henry Lee, of Spring Hill, Kansas; Sarah Marsh Lee, of Norwich, Conn.; Graham Lee, of Hamlet, Ill.; Andrew Frink Lee and John Randolph Lee, of Buffalo, N. Y.; Henry Lee, of Millersburg, Ill.; Gad Henry Lee, of Waterford, N. Y.; David Bradley Lee, of St. Louis, Mo., with some others; and after consultation the first circular was prepared and sent out, and the results were highly gratifying. As we had no organization of any kind everything must be done on the voluntary principle, with no attempt at dictation or self-assumed leadership.

Dogberry discovered long ago in his philosophy that "where two ride a horse one must ride behind," and the converse of that statement is equally true, "that where anything is to be done some one must take the lead," and so, without any self-seeking, I, by the force of circumstances, have become of some prominence in the inception and progress of the movement which has culminated here to-day.

When I commenced this matter I had but little guide aside from the "Lee Book" in my search for our kindred, but I have been much assisted by willing hands and hearts. Of the 500 circulars first sent out some thirty or so came back unclaimed, but by further correspondence I was able to find all but three, two of whom I was informed were dead, but as my informant could not give their post office address I failed to reach them.

The first circular gave the names of John Lee's children and briefly stated where some of the family descendants settled, and with your permission I will give a short outline history of each subordinate branch as we have the facts, but can only give it concerning the sons, as in a large majority of cases the descent in the female line has been lost. But our Lee women, like most of their sex, are kind hearted, and acting under the promptings of their generous natures, have adopted many a love-sick swain into the family and made him happy (that is supposed to be so), and in return have given up their own family name (which we all admit is good enough for any one), and as a result of such generosity we have lost trace of a large number of our kindred.

Every well-regulated Irish family is supposed to have in it a Patrick and a Michael, and if the family are numerous a John, a Bridget and Margaret. It has sometimes seemed to me as I look over the list of the descendants of John Lee for the first and second century and see the frequent recurrence of the names of John, Thomas, Isaac, Samuel, Hezekiah, that a similar rule was supposed to prevail among our Lees. The frequent repetition of these names leads to confusion until by much study and careful reading we are able to separate them.

The oldest son of John Lee was another John, of course; Jr. we shall have to call him, and he had four sons, (as the book shows) the first of course was another John, who is supposed to have died young.

Jonathan, who settled in Kensington, was a Deacon and his tombstone can now be seen in the old Christian Lane burying ground. He had one son, another John, and he in turn became a Deacon and had sons, (one dying young), Jonathan, Samuel, Oren and another John, and he in turn had sons, Cyprian, another John and William, now of Maryville, Ohio, who is here to-day. Cyprian Lee died in Maryville, Ohio, the last of these Johns in Kensington in 1864. The Oren Lee mentioned settled in Granby, Conn. John Lee, Jr., also had sons—Samuel, who left no sons, and Hezekiah, who was a Captain in the militia and became a prominent citizen of Farmington. I find his name often in the old colonial legislative records. He removed to Harwinton, Conn., and died there, had three sons—Daniel, who was a Lieutenant in the old French war, and was killed at the battle of St. Johns, on the Canada border in 1759, and Hezekiah, Jr., who was a Sergeant in a Company from Litchfield County in the same war. He enlisted in the Army of the Revolution, was captured by the British, carried to New York, confined in the old Jersey prison ship, was brought to Mil-





*James W. Lee.*

CLEVELAND, OHIO.

ford, Conn., with a large number of others and thrown upon the shore, all in a weak and destitute condition; yet with all the care that could be given them forty-six died in one month and were buried side by side. In 1853 the Legislature of Connecticut directed a monument to be erected to their memory and their names inscribed thereon. Among the names is Hezekiah Lee, of Harwinton, Conn. This monument stands at the entrance of the old cemetery, a short distance east from Milford Station, and in plain sight from the cars as the traveller is hurried by.

I copied the name on that monument some two years since. All trace of the family of this Hezekiah Lee has been lost, but within the past two years I have learned where nearly all of his posterity are living. A son of his, Daniel Lee, was an American soldier and killed in battle at Chippewa, Canada, in 1814. Some of his descendants are living at Kent, Conn., and Poultney and Burlington, Vt., Willsborough and Crown Point, N. Y., in Canada, Michigan, Wisconsin and California. Lyman Lee, whose name appears on the call, is a grandson of Hezekiah, Jr. Five generations of Hezekiah Lees have been in this family, and the last one was killed in battle at Gettysburg in 1863. Samuel, youngest son of Captain Hezekiah, was a surgeon in the Revolutionary Army, nearly or quite during the whole war. He settled in Windham; he had sons, Samuel, Jonathan and Charles—the same Charles Lee, of Norwich, as mentioned in the early part of this sketch. Samuel Jr., was a doctor, like his father. He was the cause of much suffering by his fellow-men, being the inventor of the famous Lee's Billous Pills, which every person of middle life will remember as a favorite panacea of our ancestors for what it would now be fashionable to call "malaria." Those pills used to cause fearful contortions of the body, with groanings that could not be uttered. The bare mention of Lee's Billous Pills makes everyone who knows what they are feel uncomfortable. James Wright Lee, of Cleveland, Ohio, is his only living descendant in this line of the Lee name. Jonathan Lee of this family (Dr. Samuel) had a numerous family, of whom Andrew F. Lee, of Buffalo, and Wm. Henry Lee, of Tewksbury, Mass., are descendants.

Rev. Samuel Lee, of New Ipswich, N. H., was a son of Samuel and a grandson of Deacon John Lee, of Berlin, and a son of his is Rev. Samuel W. Lee, a Baptist clergyman of Bevington, Iowa, and another son, George William, is, as I am informed, the finder of the grave and stone of the first John Lee. This George W. Lee died in Boone, Iowa, on the 10th of March last.

Owing to our limited time I must speak briefly of each separate family branch. Mary Lee, John's eldest daughter, married Stephen Upson, of Waterbury, now Wolcott, and so was the female ancestor of all who bear the Upson name in all this section of country. In the history of Wolcott a long list of Upsons is given, some seven or more generations, all descendants of Stephen Upson. I sent a circular and wrote quite a long letter to Rev. Henry W. Upson, of New Preston, explaining what we wanted, and asking him to give me the names of some who would be likely to be interested in this matter of our present gathering, but have never received any reply, nor have I been able to find an Upson who seemed to take any interest in our proposed meeting, and have come to the conclusion that in their case the Lee blood has become so diluted that they do not care to cultivate any further acquaintance.

Of the family of Captain Stephen Lee (whose gravestone is now standing in a good state of preservation in the old Christian Lane burying ground) we have a very meagre account. He had only two sons, Isaac and Josiah, who lived to years of maturity. Josiah was a captain in the old French war. His only child, Elizabeth, married John Patterson, who was a Brigadier-General in the war of the revolution and one of the Military Commission that tried Major Andre. Some of his posterity are living in Western New York and some in Iowa and California. Isaac, the oldest son, was a doctor of much celebrity in Middletown and vicinity. He had sons, Isaac, Jr., (well-known as Colonel Isaac), Stephen, Jacob, Josiah. Stephen went to Lenox, Mass., more than one hundred years since, and all trace of that family is lost. He had sons, Ashbel and Timothy. I have written many letters of enquiry to get some trace of this lost family, but thus far without success. I have made similar efforts to find some trace of the posterity of Jacob and Josiah, presuming that they had families, but without success. Our Lee Book says that this Josiah commanded a privateer in the war of the revolution, was captured, carried to England and kept as a prisoner for several years. We really have no one representing the Stephen Lee branch except the descendants of Colonel Isaac Lee.

The New Britain Lees are almost entirely of this branch, and to one of this family, William Henry Lee, of New York, we are all indebted for the handsome monument that marks the burial place of John Lee, the original. Among the descendants of Stephen Lee first, there have been six generations of Isaacs, and judging from the past I am not rash in saying that, like a novel series in the newspapers, this is "to be continued."



The family of Thomas Lee has seemed to be the most numerous, or, perhaps, I should say we have had better success in tracing out his posterity. He had six sons, five of whom married and reared families. Jared, Joseph, John and Thomas, twins, James, Ebenzer.

Jared settled in Southington and became a leading citizen, in fact the man of the settlement, often a member of the Colonial Legislature, Justice of the Peace, Captain, Deacon, etc. His oldest son, Seth, was liberally educated for the times, graduate of and tutor in Yale College. He moved to Vermont (Ludlow) about 1796. His posterity are numerous and are found in New York State, Kansas, Wisconsin and California. Of the family of Amos, the second son, nearly all trace had been lost since 1800. He went to Oneida County, N. Y. After much correspondence I have found some of his grandsons, who are living in Sandusky, Ohio, and some are in Buffalo, N. Y. Timothy, the third son, lived and died in Southington, rearing a family of ten children. He was a soldier in the Revolution, as was Amos, who also served in the old French war. The Lees now in Southington are of the Timothy family; some are in New York State. Leonard Lee, of Wisconsin, is a grandson of his and also Francis Lee, of Clinton, Iowa. Concerning Noah Lee, the fourth son of Jared, the traditions among his posterity do not harmonize entirely with the account as published in our book, but we are entitled to a Noah Lee, and if we find one around loose we shall claim him until some one proves a better title. He early went to Vermont, served in the French war as a boy, was in the war of the Revolution at Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Saratoga, Yorktown, serving all through it and coming out as Colonel, a man of mark and prominence, dying in 1840, aged 96 years. Many of his posterity are found in Vermont and Michigan, among them is Fred J. Lee, of Howell, Mich. Joseph Lee, second son of Thomas, was a Captain in the French war. He had sons, Thomas and Mathew. Thomas was for many years a prosperous merchant in New Hartford, Conn., a leading citizen, member of the Legislature and holding important offices. He died in 1822, and is buried in Pine Meadow Cemetery with his sons Richard and Henry, who never married, and so this branch of the family became extinct.

Mathew Lee, the second son, was a soldier of the Revolution and for a portion of his life followed the sea. All trace of any of his descendants had been lost, and I had about given up the search, but within the past six weeks I have found a large number of them in Plainville, Bristol, Farmington, New Britain and Springfield, Mass.

John, the twin, third son, had sons, James and William. Wil-

liam was a soldier of the Revolution, but I have not learned whether James was or not. James had two sons, John (for novelty I suppose) and James, Jr. John settled in Burlington, and sixteen children were born to him. Some of his posterity are found in Janesville, Wis., Union, N. Y., Louisville, Ky., and in New Jersey. The posterity of James, Jr., are found in Bristol, and one branch settled in Alabama. The posterity of William are some in Collinsville, Conn., and in Bloomfield, Crawford County, Penn.

Thomas, the twin, had sons, Miles and David. The Lee Book says three, but this is a mistake. The Thomas mentioned is confounded with Thomas, the son of Captain Joseph. I have an old Bible here which gives the names and birth of all the children of Thomas Lee, Jr. Miles Lee was a soldier, and served at Horseneck, under Putnam. He had sons, Dennis, now living at Sheffield, Mass., and Thomas, living in Westmoreland, Oneida County, N. Y. Curtis M. Lee, of Cleveland, is son of Dennis Lee. Rev. Albert Lee, of Dixon, Ill., is a son of this Thomas Lee.

David Lee was a soldier, served in New Jersey, and stood guard over Major Andre between his capture and execution. I have here a letter of his, written from the army, dated August 24th, 1780. He settled in Barkhamsted, Conn., had two sons, James and Henry (my father). My Brother, David Bradley Lee, of St. Louis, and I, are the only ones of his posterity bearing the Lee name.

Ebenezer, son of Thomas, was a doctor. During the War of the Revolution his sympathy was with the English Government, and about the close of the war he went to Canada and settled near Niagara, one or more sons going with him. He had sons, Moses, Riverius, Ebenezer, Jr., Nathaniel and Dr. William Hooker, who went to Canada with his father. Ebenezer, Jr., was an American soldier all during the war. His posterity are found in Rochester, N. Y., and around in Michigan and Missouri. There are in Ontario a large number of the descendants of Dr. William Hooker Lee, one of whom. Rev. C. Russell Lee, we are glad to welcome here to-day from over the border. I have tried very earnestly and faithfully to find some of the descendants of Moses, Riverius, Nathaniel, but thus far have not been able to obtain the slightest trace. Nathaniel settled in Westfield, Mass., and our book says he lived and died there.

Of the family of David, fourth son of John, we have only a meagre record. He had four sons, Jedediah, David, Jr., Josiah, Jonathan. Jedediah had sons, Elias, Josiah, Jedediah, Jr., Zebulon, Simon, and there all our knowledge ends. David, Jr., went to Berkshire County, Mass., about 1760. He had one son, David third, and he



*Henry B. Lee.*

PLEASANT VALLEY, CONN.

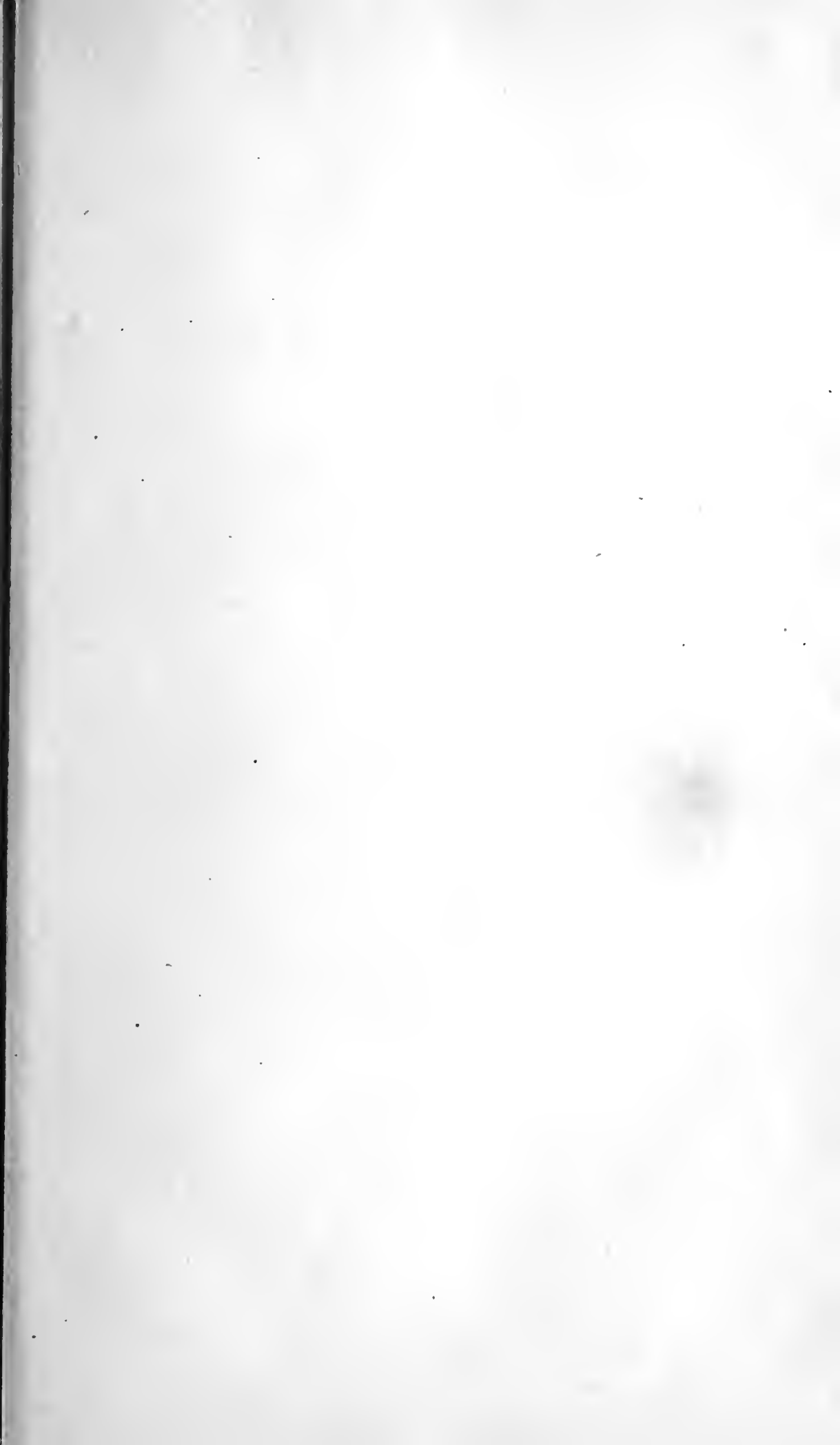
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had sons, David fourth and Elisha, and there all record stops. Of Josiah, second son of the first David, we have no trace whatever ; all efforts to find any of their posterity have thus far been fruitless. Of the posterity of Jonathan, the fourth son of David, we have a full record. He became an eminent clergymen at Salisbury, Conn. He served as Chaplain in the French war. He reared a family of six sons and five daughters. The sons were Jonathan, Jr., Samuel, Elisha, Milo, Chauncey, Robert Walker. Jonathan, Jr., was a Surgeon of the Revolution. He had three sons. Among his descendants is John Randolph Lee, of Buffalo, and some others are in Western New York.

One of the prominent men of this family was the Rev. Chauncey Lee, of Colebrook, Conn., in the early part of this century. He was one of the leading clergymen in the Congregational denomination in Connecticut. He was an author of some repute, and wrote a paraphrase of the book of Job in very much such a style as "Pope's Essay on Man." The book is now very rare and something of a curiosity. I have here a copy of it, the property of his granddaughter, Mrs. Truman French, of New Haven, Conn. His descendants are some of them in Vermont, New York State, Illinois, and one branch is in Texas. Captain Samuel was a soldier of the Revolution. Some of his posterity are in Massachusetts, New York City, Tennessee and California. Elisha was a lawyer in Sheffield, Mass. There is now living in Salisbury a daughter of Robert Walker Lee, the youngest son of Rev. Jonathan, Mrs E. O. Chittenden, 85 years old. Deacon Milo Lee was a prominent citizen of Salisbury. His posterity are quite numerous ; some are in Bridgeport, Conn., Norwich and Binghamton, N. Y., in Michigan and Illinois, of whom are Graham and Henry Lee. Many of this branch have given evidence of much ability mentally and morally in the various walks of life, and have furnished a large proportion of what can truly be termed leading citizens. Of the descendants of Tabitha Lee, who married Preserved Strong I have been able to find only one whose address I could be satisfied of, Hon. Wm. Strong, a former U. S. Judge, now living in Washington, D. C. While expressing approval of the proposed family gathering he signified no intention to take any part in it, consequently I concluded we should have no assistance from those that are *Strong*. Of course, this is only a brief sketch, for our time will not permit to take up each family branch and bring it down to the present day, and so I have only mentioned those of the three generations succeeding John, the emigrant. While so much has been accomplished in the way of historical investiga-

tion, a great deal yet remains to be done. I earnestly hope that those present will be stimulated to a spirit of inquiry, and be ready to assist those who are so earnestly engaged in trying to trace out our lost kindred. I have been impressed with one trait of character that seems to stand out prominently in all the branches of our family: While none of the Lee's of our sort have been Governors or Congressmen, they have ever been ready to defend their country, to fight its battles, and are firm in their convictions. I find that at least six served as soldiers in the French war. I have what I consider a very well authenticated list of sixteen who served in the Revolutionary war. Hezekiah, Jr., Samuel, Isaac, Jr., Josiah, Amos, Timothy, Noah, Thomas, Mathew, Asahel, Miles, David, Ebenezer, Jr., William, Jonathan, Jr., Samuel (of David's family). Very likely there are more names that should be added to this list. As the drain upon the colony was very great nearly every able-bodied man saw service in some form, and when we remember that Connecticut furnished over 32,000 men in that struggle out of a population of about 200,000 or 250,000, we can form some idea of the sacrifices which were made. The list of the soldiers of the Revolution has never been published, but efforts are being made to have the United States Government do it, and then we shall be able to know better what sacrifices were made to win national independence. Very possible that some of those I have mentioned of whose posterity all trace has been lost entered the army and died in the struggle. In no other way can I account for the entire lack of success to all inquiries in that direction. I have quite a list of those who served in 1812-14, but it is not so large in proportion as in the Revolutionary war. In the last war I think the list would exceed a hundred, for I have the names of more than twenty who were either killed in action or died of disease either in the service or after their return. I think we have no cause to be ashamed of our record. But after all it is of but little use for us to boast of what our ancestors have done, or to brag as the Irishman did, "that our family is like a hill of potatoes—the best part of it under ground." We are the heirs of their rich example in mental and moral worth, and it is our duty to prove ourselves worthy of this rich inheritance. The world will judge us not by what our sires have done, but by what we do. May we be able as men and women to do the duty which comes to us day by day, each bearing well his part in the world while we live in it, and thus help our humanity in its struggles upward to a higher civilization and a divine life.

WM. WALLACE LEE.





*Leonard Lee.*

KENOSHA, WIS.



The generosity of the audience secured some applause for the paper just read, and it was followed by one of real merit, which aroused considerable interest. It was the production of Leonard Lee, of Kenosha, Wis., who read it in clear, emphatic tones:

## EXTRACT FROM A PAPER

READ BY

LEONARD LEE,

OF KENOSHA, WIS.

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From early life I have ever felt a deep interest to learn the origin of our family, and have seized upon every tradition and treasured it in memory, but living far from the ancestral home and isolated from all family connections, my facilities for gathering information have been exceedingly limited.

At the age of 21 I visited the old homestead of four generations, in the town of Southington, and in company with a cousin, the heir prospective of the premises, ransacked the garret, where, among rubbish, which had lain more than half a century, undisturbed, were found papers, which proved to be family records and legal dockets of Jared Lee, grandson of John Lee, and great grandfather to myself. Mutilated, musty and discolored with age, as they were, I coveted them. I was then young and too modest to beg the old papers, for which no one cared but myself, and which I might, undoubtedly, have had for the asking, but left them, feeling that they were an invaluable treasure in family lore.

Time rolled on, and becoming involved in the cares of a business life, they were nearly forgotten, till within a few years. Extracts from the same papers have been published in the History of Southington. I endeavored to recover the originals by correspondence with the author, but did not succeed—thus were lost documents of various kinds, which would undoubtedly have been invaluable to us at this time.

Born in old Southington, the first few years of my life were spent under the shadows of the home of four generations, and my childhood in central New York, and although for forty years past, identified with western life, beyond the great lakes, I feel that among the romantic hills and lovely valleys of the good old Nutmeg State, was a glorious place to be born, and were I to select a place in which to

be "born again," I would select the same identical spot. Although an accidental virtue—one which I could not help—I feel proud to be a native of Connecticut, the land of steady habits.

In my infancy the Lee's were numerous in Southington, and in my childish imagination I fancied they comprised a majority of the population—in fact *owned* the town—while now there are not, to my knowledge, a half dozen male representatives bearing the name living within its borders. The family possessions have passed to other names, and the Lee's, once so prominent, are scattered far and wide, but away down in the bottom of my heart, under the accumulated rubbish of years, there remains one little spot bright with the recollection of my native home.

There are some of our kindred present who have been so fortunate as to rescue from oblivion many facts and incidents in the lives of their immediate line of ancestors, which are a source of interest, but such, I regret to say, has not been my fortune. With the exception of one—a great grandfather—I have been able to collect but a few general facts.

Jared Lee, eldest son of Thomas Lee, and grandson of John Lee, who emigrated from England, was born in Farmington in 1712, and when a young man settled in the south part of the town, which, in 1779, became known as Southington. Here he became the owner of an extensive farm, which, at this time, is mostly occupied by the village of that name. This farm, from time to time, became parceled out to heirs and purchasers for more than 100 years, till at present, I am not aware that a foot of his original possessions is owned by any male descendant bearing the family name.

Of his early life, or educational advantages, we have no record, but, judging from his writings, we are inclined to believe they were confined to the ordinary schools of the day, for in his orthography he was bold, original and independent, setting at defiance all known rules of the King's English—a practical "fonetic."

Why his early culture was neglected, while some of his brothers were liberally educated to professional pursuits, can only be accounted for by his love of active, out-door pursuits, greater than for his books. But his deficiency in literature was more than counterbalanced by his business and executive ability. Agile and vigorous, and possessed of great muscular power in his youth, he is said to have been a champion among his comrades in running, jumping and wrestling. He was a staunch advocate for justice, and any dispute which arose among his fellows was sure to be referred to him, and settled according to his dictum, while he was possessed of power to enforce

his decisions, no matter how arbitrary. The patience with which he listened to details before deciding, laid the foundation of his long official career as a magistrate of justice in after years.

While still a young man he became a Captain of the King's Militia, and took great pride in the drill of his company, ambitious that his should be the most efficient of the regiment.

Some time previous to 1750 he became the first Justice of the Peace for that part of Farmington since known as Southington, but whether by election or appointment I am unable to learn. An office of great note at that time, he maintained its dignity for more than twenty-five years and was a terror to evil doers. That he was arbitrary, there is little reason to doubt, but his decisions were seldom or ever reversed by appeal to a higher tribunal.

His dockets prove that he was ever jealous of the violation of "one good and wholesome law of this colony," and some of the cases brought before him, would create a smile at the present day, even in the blue-law States.

John Messenger was brought before him on complaint of the "tithing men," April 26th, 1752, in behalf of "our Lord, the King, for *whispering and laughing between meetings on the Sabbath day.*" Fined 3 shillings—cost 3 shillings.

Jane Hazard, minor daughter of James Hazard, "for *whispering and laughing between meetings on the Sabbath day,*" was fined 3 shillings—cost 1 shilling.

John Bartholmew, "for *rude and idle behavior in meeting, by playing with his fingers in his hair.*" Fined 3 shillings—cost 2 shillings; paid by said John.

Andrew Culver, for "*throwing down Phebe Adkins on the ice on Lord's day,*" was fined 3 shillings—cost, 1 shilling; Jan. 12, 1752. Others were fined for "neglect to attend meeting on the Sabbath day."

These were solemn realities at that time, and the peace and good order of society were supposed to require the execution of the law to the letter. Cheerfulness on the Sabbath was not to be tolerated,—a long and solemn face must prevail till after sunset. The "evening and the morning were the first day," and Saturday evening must be rigidly "kept" as part of the Sabbath, the exercises of which consisted in scrubbing the children, from a brass kettle of hot water, preparatory for the following day, but when "three stars" appeared in the sky on Sunday evening, the children were turned loose, the mothers resumed their knitting, while the fathers met at the "store" to talk politics. This custom prevailed as late as the middle of the first half of the present century.

Other honors were bestowed upon my illustrious ancestor. For many years he represented his town in the General Court, or Colonial Legislature, and his judgment on important matters was considered with great respect.

As a Deacon in the Congregational Church, which office he held thirty years, he was a leading character. Stern and unyielding in his orthodoxy, even to obstinacy, he usually carried his own point in church matters, and, it is said, was never known to acknowledge an error. On all questions admitting a difference of opinion, that party in which Deacon Lee was found was sure to win. Although kind and generous, his ideas were decidedly arbitrary.

As a farmer, hotel keeper and merchant he succeeded in accumulating a handsome fortune, maintaining a leading position in society and able to cope with the most aristocratic of the town.

Tall and dignified in appearance, his scarlet coat, blue knee-breeches, lace frills, silver shoe and knee buckles, cocked hat, powdered wig and "que," never failed to command respect. Hats were doffed and bows made at his approach, and no one except the minister was expected to receive honors equal to those bestowed upon the Honorable Captain Deacon Jared Lee, Esq. He seems to have been the counterpart of his honored kinsman and contemporary, Colonel Isaac Lee, of New Britain, whose dignity was proverbial.

During the Revolution he was an ardent patriot, and took an active part in local measures to further the interests of the colonies. Too far advanced in life to take the field himself, he furnished three sons for the army, one of whom became a Captain and another a Colonel in the service. The third held a commission, but for what position the records do not inform us.

Although his literary accomplishments were limited, he was a constant reader and profound thinker,—was well informed on all important questions of the day, and took a deep interest in the education of his family, one son graduating at Yale, the others receiving such advantages as were afforded by the schools and academies of the day. He died before the close of the war and his grave may be seen in the north cemetery of the town, marked by a red sandstone slab upon which may be found the following inscription:—

"Here lyeth interred the body of Jared Lee, Esq. A gentleman of manly sense, who had acquired a good acquaintance with things Civil and Divine. The several offices which he sustained and departments as a Minister of Justice, a Deacon of the Church and Representative of the town, a member of society and head of a family, he filled with honor and well supported the character of a Christian, and with humble and firm hope in the grace of God



*Hon. Jared Lee.*

B. 1712 - D. 1780.

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through Jesus Christ, of a Glorious Immortality. Departed this life the 2d day of August, 1780, in the 69th year of his age."

He was twice married and his two wives were buried near him.

The family of Jared Lee consisted of four sons and two daughters. Of the latter I can say nothing. Seth, the eldest son was a graduate and afterwards a tutor in Yale College; studied medicine and theology, and removed to Vermont in 1796. His representatives are present to-day and can speak of his posterity better than myself. I have in my possession a "Bailey's Dictionary," which was used by him when a student, previous to 1758, containing his name, written in German text.

Amos removed to Oneida County, New York, about the year 1800, and of him the compiler of the Lee Book remarks: "No further record of this family." Recent researches have brought to light the fact that his descendants have been living among us for two or three generations without being identified. My own boyhood life was spent in the adjoining county, and still we were each ignorant of the existence of the others. His representatives are present with us. He served in the War of the Revolution, but in what capacity I am unable to learn.

Noah removed to Vermont in the latter part of the last century. He served in the Revolutionary War and became a Colonel in the Continental Army. His representatives are also present with us, and will speak for themselves.

Timothy succeeded to the homestead and the business of the father—farming, hotel keeping and merchandizing. His life seems to have been spent without any striking events, except his service in the Continental Army as a Captain, but whether of militia or regulars I have been unable to learn, or for what length of time he served. Although not so prominently identified with public affairs as his father, he maintained the reputation of a thorough business man and exemplary citizen, and was frequently elected to positions of honor and trust in the town. He was twice married, and died at the age of 73. His grave may be seen in the North Cemetery of Southington.

His family consisted of five sons and five daughters, all of whom married and settled in their native town, and all, save one, died and were buried in the same or adjoining towns. All reared families. Two of the daughters have left no living issue. Of the sons three only have left any male descendants bearing the family name.

Martin, eldest son of Timothy, succeeded to the homestead, living a quiet life, spent as a farmer, and died in 1841, aged 63, leaving one daughter, who married Dr. Frederick Hart, a descendant of Deacon

Stephen Hart, whose daughter was the wife of John Lee, our common ancestor. She succeeded to the homestead, and died without issue in 1879, and the homestead having been a family possession 130 to 140 years, became the property of her husband, who still retains it.

Orren, third son of Timothy, the only one of the family who exhibited a disposition to migrate, removed to Manlius, New York, in 1826, where he engaged extensively in farming, occupying the same farm thirty years. He retired in 1857 and died at Clinton, Iowa, at the residence of his youngest son, Francis, in 1877, aged 91 years, being the last representative of ten children, and, with one exception, the eldest at his demise.

He lived to a greater age than any of his ancestors, their ages, tracing back, running as follows: Timothy, 73 years at decease; Jared, 68 years; Thomas, 71 years; John, 70 years; being an average of  $70\frac{1}{2}$  years. Adding his own age of 91 years, the average is brought up to  $74\frac{3}{4}$  years.

\*                      \*                      \*                      \*                      \*                      \*

His (Orren's) family consisted of four sons and two daughters, all of whom were married.

Charles Timothy was a jeweler and watchmaker, in Buffalo, and died there in 1861, leaving two sons and two daughters.

Oliver, a younger brother, was for several years a partner in the firm known as "Lee and Brother." He died in Owatonna, Minn., in 1867, whither he had gone for his health, leaving two sons and one daughter.

Francis is at present, and has been for many years, a druggist, residing at Clinton, Iowa,—is with us to-day, and can speak for himself.

Cornelia married George Butts, of Manlius, N. Y., a noted stock-breeder and farmer; has two sons.

Of myself I can say but little of interest. My boyhood was spent on the homestead farm in central New York. Several years were subsequently spent as an accountant in the counting room of the *Public Ledger*, Philadelphia, but failing health requiring a change, in 1844 I became a citizen of Wisconsin, as before stated, which is still my home.

My own family consists of four sons, two of whom graduated in Theology at Yale.

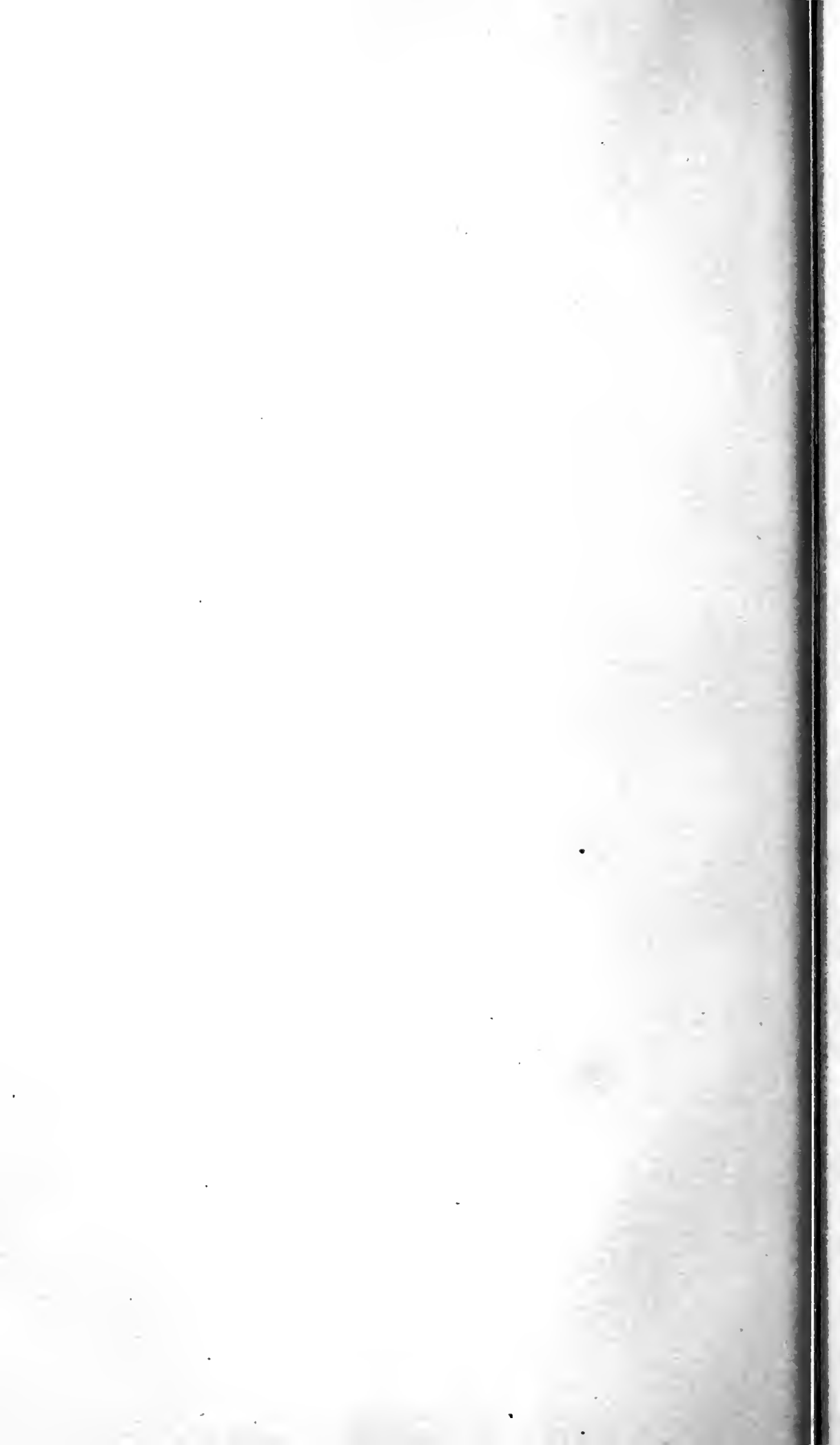
Lucius Orren went out in 1880 as a missionary, and is stationed at Marash, Turkey in Asia.





*Sarah M. Lee.*

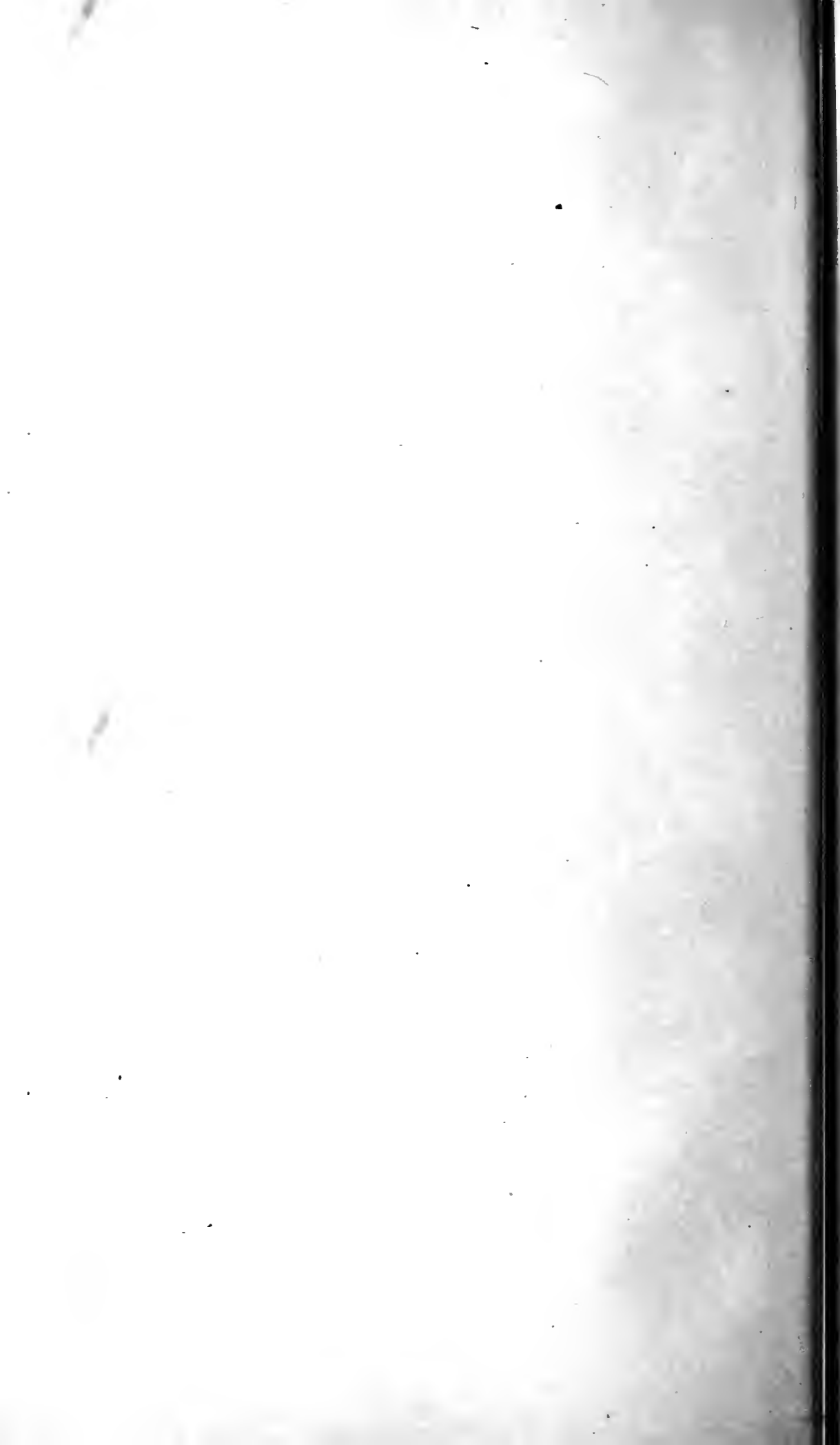
NORWICH, CONN.





*Orren Lee.*

CLINTON, IOWA.



Frank Theodocius is a pastor at Salt Lake City, Utah,—at this time recreating at Yellowstone Park.

Herbert Morris is a lumber dealer at Kansas City, Missouri.

Charles Richard, a graduate at Yale, for several years a partner in the lumber trade of the firm of H. M. Lee & Brother, now rusticating in Montana.

This wide separation of my own family is but an illustration of the scattered posterity of John Lee, our common ancestor.

A daughter, Hattie Alatheia, grew to womanhood, and her brief history may be related in a few words: Graduated at Oberlin College, proficient in painting, music, and literature; two years an invalid; sought health by travel and residence in a salubrious mountain climate in a Southern latitude, all in vain. For a long time, her friends held her by one hand, persuading her to stay, while the angels held her by the other persuading her to go. She hesitated, lingered; at last, weary of earth, she allowed the angels to prevail, and one bright summer morning, discovering the gates of heaven ajar, she joined the throng, and was borne to her eternal home. Long and wistfully we gazed after her, till a cloud with a silver lining closed her from our view.

\* \* \* \* \*

We have met to commemorate the advent to our shores of John Lee, our common ancestor. It was a bold movement, at that day, to strike out for the new world, an unknown wilderness, to encounter the privations and hardships of a pioneer life, requiring nerve and ambition. Two and a half centuries have since rolled away, and the handful of enterprising immigrants have become a powerful nation, taking rank among the first nations of the globe, and the posterity of John Lee have become as the leaves of the forest and spread themselves far and wide.

To our enterprising kinsman, William Wallace Lee, of Meriden, belongs the honor of originating this movement, and to numerous others no little credit is due for valuable aid and encouragement. Two years and a half ago I had never heard of his existence, and, indeed, to me, it seemed that those whose names I read in the "Lee Book" were men of straw, whose existence was imaginary, rather than real, so little did I know of our kindred.

In March, 1882, I received a letter from a stranger, claiming kinship, and proposing a general gathering of our numerous family. It is unnecessary to add that his suggestion met my cordial approval, provided it could be effected. It seemed like up-hill work—a gigantic enterprise. Where were we to begin, to bring about

such an event? With one or two exceptions, I had never seen—had scarcely heard of any of the kindred. beyond the descendants of my own grandsire, and of those, even, I was personally acquainted with few, save my own surviving brother and sister. The same complaint was general—few seemed to know their own kindred. I stated my utter inability to make the first movement to render assistance. His reply was: “Select names from the book and open correspondence.” Acting upon his suggestion, I did so, and to my surprise, with one or two exceptions, never failed to receive a favorable response, exhibiting a commendable interest in our common genealogy and in this enterprise.

But there was a large amount of labor to be performed to accomplish the result. Lost families were to be discovered, preliminary arrangements to be made, while no two whose heart was in the work were living within reasonable limits, to enter into personal conference, or to act as a committee of arrangements.

One of less perseverance would have abandoned the project in despair. Nothing daunted, our enterprising kinsman proved adequate to the task—persevered to the end, and our gathering to-day has crowned his labors with success. It is a proud moment for him—it is a proud moment for us all. I feel proud of my native State, proud to reflect that the blood of sturdy New England ancestors for six generations—and on both sides of my family—courses through my veins.

But far back of this enterprise commences our primary obligation for the present interview. Our fair cousin, Miss Sarah Marsh Lee, is entitled to no small share of honor, for without the result of her labors there would have been no guide—scarcely a starting point.

In 1859 I received a letter from Deacon Charles Lee, of Norwich, of whom I had never heard, declaring his intention to collect and publish the genealogy of the Lee family, and soliciting such information as I was able to give. That was very little, but I rejoiced to learn that he was so much interested in the subject, for I had, myself, once declared, that had I lived in the old State where I could collect the requisite data, if no other one would attempt the work, I would, but I little knew at that time what a task would have been before me.

Our correspondence continued several years, till death called him away. This, however, did not materially retard the progress of the work, except temporarily. He had been assisted by his daughter, Sarah, and to her characteristic perseverance, against innumerable

discouragements, we are indebted for the publication of the work. For more than twenty years, her labors and researches were continued, and although there are some omissions, which it was impossible to supply, it is a source of congratulation that so much was accomplished. Her name will deservedly go down to posterity.

It is to be hoped that this gathering may result in awakening an interest, in collecting statistics and other information, which will lead to a revised and enlarged edition of the present work. A noble movement has been inaugurated, and it is becoming that it be continued.

To William Henry Lee of New York, we are indebted for his liberality in the erection of a noble monument to our common ancestor. Others there are who would gladly have contributed, had they been brought into communication, as at present, but that fact, detracts nothing from his credit for liberality and enterprise. To him alone belongs the honor of its erection. It is becoming to the posterity of John Lee, that they hallow the spot where the remains of their ancestor were deposited. It is a satisfaction to be permitted to make a pilgrimage to his tomb, to tread the ground which he once trod, to gaze on the surroundings which were once familiar to him. It is a source of pride that one of his posterity should so revere his memory, as to build his monument, to mark the spot, when his remains have so long since crumbled to ashes.

Who was John Lee? What relation did he sustain to his protectors and guardians with whom he immigrated to our shores, when a mere lad? What were the primal causes which led to the immigration to an unknown wilderness? What position did his family sustain in his native country? Did they take rank among nobility, or did they move in a more humble sphere? What was their origin? These are questions which have arisen with me, but have never been satisfactorily answered.

From vague traditions which I have never been able to trace to any authentic source and from prefixes which tradition ascribes to the name, making it De La Lee, I have adopted the opinion, whether erroneously or not, I cannot say, that they were of French origin; perhaps made their advent into England from Normandy, in France, with William the Conqueror, as a large proportion of old English families, particularly the nobility, are said to be descended from his followers. These, of course, are vague conjectures, but I trust some one whose facilities are greater than mine, may yet unearth some long buried records, which may establish their identity beyond a doubt.

It matters little to us now, beyond the gratification of curiosity, whether our far-back ancestors, were nobles or peasants, for, under American institutions, nobility consists of noble deeds. A far more important question arises—were they noted for virtuous deeds? and if so, have their posterity inherited their virtues?

I feel proud to believe that our American ancestor was a man of noble virtues. His descendants are numerous and widely scattered, and we may indulge an honest pride, that, as a people, they are not wanting in integrity and patriotism, and are worthy of their ancestor.

#### COMMENTS, ETC.

The finish of the reading of this paper was signalized by hearty applause, and the various comments upon it in the body of the hall were highly complimentary, every one being well pleased.

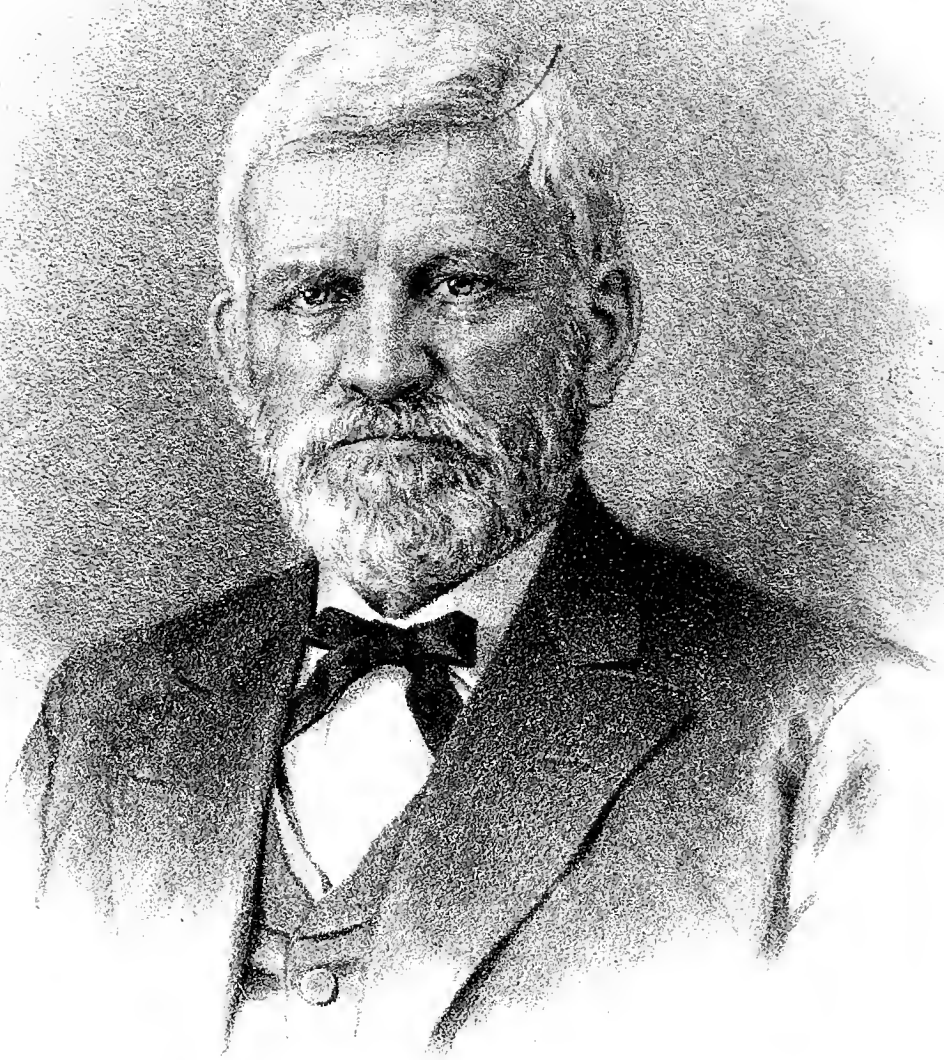
The oratory was at this point relieved by vocal music, the assemblage singing an ode, to the tune of Auld Lang Syne, composed by Edwin N. Andrews, of Chicago, who sent it to the gathering. Mr. Andrews, though unable to attend, exhibited commendable zeal in contributing to make the gathering a success.

The singing was followed by pertinent remarks from Thomas W. Lee, of St. John, N. B., who showed his interest in the occasion by coming from a foreign country, to mingle with the throng, and greet the largest number of Lee's that probably ever assembled under one roof at one time. He took occasion to introduce his nephew and townsman, Mr. G. Herbert Lee, who accompanied him from the Provinces, to extend the hand of friendship's greeting to his kinsmen. The latter made a brief address, full of ardor and enthusiasm. It was evident that all he said came from his heart. The tender expressions of gratitude for the warm welcome extended to him and his uncle were made in well-chosen words, which proved conclusively that he rejoiced in bearing the name of Lee, and that he considered it a proud day when it was his privilege and pleasure to meet so many of them, and he hoped to meet them again, collectively or individually, and, either way, should any of them turn their faces toward St. John, they would find the same warm welcome which he had just received. The remarks were listened to with attention, and a generous shower of cheers followed their close.

Next came remarks from Prof. Lee, of Canton, N. Y., who, although not being able to connect himself with our branch, still deemed it a high honor to be a Lee, as will be seen by his speech, as follows :







*J. S. Lee,*

## REMARKS

OF

PROFESSOR JOHN S. LEE, D. D.

CANTON, N. Y.

*Mr. President:* It has been contended by some here that I do not belong to the main branch of the Lee family. Perhaps I do not; but I will say for myself that I was born a Lee, I have ever lived a Lee, and I shall ever be found on the Lee-ward side. The Lee's are a numerous family; I have heard of them in all parts of the land, yea, in other lands. While traveling in Europe I encountered them. A letter came to me in Florence, sent from Rome. It was written in the Italian language, and addressed to John Lee, but it was not for me. After I reached London, a letter addressed in the same way was forwarded from Italy, but on opening it, I found it was designed for another person. On arriving in Paris, I went to the Munroe agency, and inquired for a package for Mr. Lee: "What Lee?" was the reply, "we have many of that name on our list."

We also learn that the Lee's are rather numerous among the Chinese, but they are of another race. Once in my boyhood days, a tall, muscular negro called at my father's, and wanted to sleep in the barn. The next morning he came to the house and asked for breakfast. We asked him his name. "John Lee," was his answer. The blacks in the South often bear the name of Lee; but we do not claim them as our relatives any more than we do those of the Mongolian race.

The Lee's have been a hardy race. Some remarkable instances of longevity are seen among them. My grandfather had ten children. The average age of six of them was 88, and of five, over 90 years. There are many instances of persons among them living to be 75, 80, 90, and nearly 100 years old.

My great grandfather, John Lee, was born probably in Killingly, (now Thompson), Conn., in 1712. Several of his children were also born there. He migrated to Vernon, Vt., in 1781, and died there in 1784,—one hundred years ago. His great grandchildren erected a monument over his grave in Vernon, a few years since. His son, Jesse, my grandfather, was born in Thompson, Conn., in 1742, and died in Vernon, Vt., in 1816. His son, my father, Eli Lee, was born in Vernon, Dec. 16, 1785, and died there Nov. 12, 1881, aged nearly 96 years. Only 22 years intervene between the

death of John Lee, of Farmington, and the birth of my great grandfather. This hiatus has never been filled. Whether the "missing links" can ever be supplied remain to be seen.

You see the John's are numerous in the family. John Lee, of Farmington, John Lee, of Thompson, John Lee, my uncle; my name is John, and I have a son John. There is no danger of the name John Lee dying out, if we are true to the example of our ancestors; but it seems that they do not all belong to the same family or the same race.

I have been much interested in the proceedings of this meeting. It has exceeded my expectations, both in the numbers present and the interest manifested. It does us all good to look into each other's faces, exchange greetings, and learn the genealogical facts which have been given in the essays and the addresses. I was specially interested in the paper of William Henry Lee, in regard to the history of the Lee's in England before our ancestors came to this country, and since. He has laid bare threads of our family history that ought to be followed up. Something important will doubtless thus be found out. It may prove that we all sprang from a common source.

I have been very much struck with the uniform characteristics of the Lee family as presented here, and as I have witnessed them. They are a moral and intelligent class of people. They have been noted for their sturdy, brave, self-sacrificing, industrious, patriotic qualities. They have been firm in the maintenance of their convictions. When occasion required, they have been firm and zealous in the defense of political and religious liberty. While they have been frank, social, genial, they have not given themselves up to convivial habits. I have never known but one drunkard bearing the name, though my observation may have been more fortunate than that of some others. Faith in God as the Ruler of the universe and the Arbiter of our destinies, persistence in the use of means and opportunities, respect for good order, morality, religion, the family relation, love of kindred without being clannish or narrow in their views of duty to all: these are some of the virtues which characterize the family.

It is our duty and privilege to cherish these virtues and all the graces of the spirit, and hand them down unimpaired to our posterity. In this way we can most truly show forth our gratitude to those who have preceded us. As a teacher of long experience, I believe most profoundly in the moulding and guiding power of education. From their earliest history in this country, the Lee's have been special friends of education. Let us see to it that our children shall be so

trained that they may honor the family name more and more, as generation shall succeed generation.

*"BREVITY THE SOUL OF WIT."*

The remarks of Professor Lee were listened to with attention and followed closely, for as will be observed, they make special reference to some of the marked characteristics of the family; and the opinion was freely expressed that the speech was meritorious, the only regret being that it was thought to be too brief, but probably the Professor, like the famous poet, believed that "Brevity is the soul of wit."

When the hum of applause subsided, one not bearing the name of Lee, but whose "*Heart*" was in the family, delivered a very interesting paper, his subject being:

## THOMAS GOODRICH LEE, M.D.

REMARKS BY REV. BURDETT HART, OF NEW HAVEN, CONN.

*Mr. President:*—I am glad to meet those who are kindred on this occasion, for although I am not Lee in name, I am in heart. From the beginning of settlements in these parts, the Lees and the Harts have been joined in the best of human unions, and the good custom, begun in the first families of Farmington, has obtained down to our day, so that I am as much one as the other.

It has been suggested to me that in these exercises, which are somewhat commemorative, I should say a few words in memorial of DR. THOMAS GOODRICH LEE. I do this with cheerfulness. I speak in behalf of his eldest sister,\* now in her eighty-seventh year, who would have enjoyed being here, except for the risks attendant on advanced age; a lady who honors the name of LEE; who is interested now, as she always has been interested, in the progress of all good causes in the world; who was a reformer before certain reformation; who was an abolitionist before there was an anti-slavery society; who was a temperance woman before there was a temperance cause; who was herself a tract society before there was such an organization; who was a Bible class teacher when Sunday-schools were started; who has been an active and consistent and benevolent Christian for three-quarters of a century; who to-day has a warm heart and an intelligent mind for the advancing Kingdom

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\* Mrs. Minerva Lee Hart.

of our Lord; who keeps herself well informed as to the work at home and abroad, and who sends her salutations to this gathering of her kindred.

I speak in behalf of his two other sisters,\* one of whom is interestedly present, and one† of whom is living on the Pacific coast, too far away even to come to such an historic assemblage as this. I speak in behalf of his two surviving brothers,‡ one of whom is on this platform as a vice-president of the body, and the other§ of whom is one to whom we are indebted for the able paper on the English Origin of the Family, and for much of the pleasure of this reunion of ours. I speak in behalf, also, of another brother,|| whose voice has been lately silenced in this city; an accomplished and learned physician, whose sympathies were strong for the oppressed, and whose self-denying benevolence was large for all the burdened and suffering. And I speak for others of his family,¶ \*\* who have gone, with him, to their reward, whose gentle manners and radiant lives are ever dear in our memories.

For all these, as well as for myself, I am glad to speak a few words of Dr. Thomas Goodrich Lee.

To me he was an ideal man. He was born in New Britain, Conn., in 1808; and he died when he was but twenty-eight years of age. He was a student in the Military School at Middletown, which was then the West Point of Connecticut, where he acquired a skill in the manual of arms which served him to good purpose in his chosen profession. I, as a boy, used to look with admiration upon his huge gloves, and foils, and hard military bed. He was a skillful fencer and had a passion for military service. If he had lived to our day, he would have taken a patriot's glowing interest in the great struggle for the nation's life; and then another General Lee, in the Northern armies, might have crossed his sword with the Southern General of that name, his equal in the science of war, his superior in patriotic devotion to his country.

He studied medicine at Yale College, and in Hartford with Dr. Todd, and became a physician for the insane. In this special practice he had no superior. His genius found here a fit and most interesting field for its development. If his life had been prolonged, he would have attained a peculiar eminence in that department of medical service. He had a wonderful power over the disordered minds.

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\* Mrs. Angeline Lee Howard.

† Mrs. Caroline Lee Phelps.

‡ Lorenzo Porter Lee.

|| John Riley Lee, M. D.

§ William Henry Lee.

¶ Mrs. Thirza Lee Tilton.

\*\* Mrs. Almira Stanley Hunt.



*L. P. Lee.*

NEW BRITAIN, CONN.





They were swayed by him as by a master. By a strange sympathy and skill, he led them out of their bondage into peace and sanity. Even the maniacs were subject to him. I remember the case of a violent patient who was confined in a cell by himself. Dr. Lee, as usual, was calling upon him, when the maniac wrenched a bed-post from its place, and struck savagely at the physician with the intention of killing him. Dr. Lee had only the large brass key with which he had locked himself into the cell with which to defend himself. Then it was that his training as a cadet served and saved him. With that key he dexterously parried the wild blows of his antagonist. The maniac was a powerful man; the doctor was slight. It was a contest of strength with skill. The issue seemed doubtful. The physician was cool, self-possessed, watchful, with reserves of science: the patient was furious, careless, exhausting himself with excesses of passion. At last he sank to the floor in the nervous reaction. Dr. Lee quickly unlocked the door, passed out, and locked the insane man in. He went down the corridor and took a glass of water, and returned immediately to the cell and locked himself in as before, and gave the maniac the glass of water, telling him that after so severe a struggle he thought he might like the refreshment of it. From that time the maniac was a subdued man. Dr. Lee was completely his master, and he would do anything that the physician prescribed. This instance shows his extraordinary power.

He was proposing new theories in respect to insanity. His views were becoming an authority. He was able, and courageous, and affable. Those who did not agree with him respected his opinions. His devotion to his profession was a master passion. When he was expostulated with by his anxious friends, who felt that he was putting in jeopardy a life which the world could not spare, he would reply, "That life is long which answers life's great end," and then, with the old audacity and self-abnegation, he would return to his books and his practice. He could have reached great eminence. There was no sphere nor calling in which he could not have achieved success.

He was the life and center of any society in which he was found. In manner, he had the politeness of a Frenchman; in opinion, he had the fixedness of an Englishman. There was a charm to his conversation, a grace and beauty to his deportment, which won all hearts. He was married to a lady who was worthy of him, whose loveliness and queenliness made her the favorite of society and the pride of her friends, and their union was one of unceasing confidence and joy.

Such a gathering as this Dr. Lee would have enjoyed. He had a rare taste for historic research, and he was greatly interested in the

genealogy of his family. He had acquired many facts which were of great value to his own church and to his native town, and which furnished material to other historians, and will probably be of service in your ancestral investigations.

But the crown of his life was his Christian character. Before he was thirteen years of age he became a decided follower of Christ, and immediately made confession of his faith in the Congregational church of New Britain, where the names of his ancestors, for three generations of godly men, had been recorded. This gave color to all his history. It kindled in him an enthusiasm to be of use to his fellow-men. It made him prize life, but prize it only as it could be of service to others. Selfishness had no place in his personal philosophy. He gave himself to Christ; he gave himself to men. He was a Christian; he was a philanthropist as well. He loved the free polity of the Congregational churches. He revered the character of the founders of New England, among whom his own fathers had borne a distinguished part. He desired to imitate their virtues, and to sustain the institutions they planted. His faith was supreme in a Divine Saviour, and he walked with Him in a life of faithful service, which was only too short, unto the end which was victory and peace.

I present this extemporaneous tribute to your assembly for one whose life honored the name of LEE, for one whose loss through all these years we have deplored, who, were he still alive, would have graced this presence by his dignity and his urbanity.

#### *CLOSING THE FIRST DAY.*

Rev. Mr. Hart's remarks were received with the same generous applause that marked all previous speakers. With the reading of his paper closed the literary exercises of the day; so much had been presented in that line, that it was thought best to postpone all matters of that nature to another day, and it was voted to meet again at 10 o'clock the next morning.

Although the day had been somewhat unpropitious, yet all had enjoyed the occasion much. After appointing committees for various purposes, as mentioned in the Secretary's report, the meeting formally adjourned for the day.

It was a cause for regret that quite a number of those who had been with us during the day felt compelled, by circumstances they could not control, that they must leave for their homes. The good-byes were said, the hands shaken, and many regrets were expressed that they could remain no longer. Those who could, remained and

mingled in friendly conversation for a time before they dispersed to hotels and their temporary stopping places, anticipating a further season of enjoyment at the reception which was to be given to such of our kindred as could attend at the summer residence on Washington street of Wm. H. Lee, of New York.

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*AN UNPLEASANT FEATURE.*

After returning to the U. S. Hotel, occurred the only unpleasant thing which marred in any degree the pleasure of the gathering. Mrs. Charlotte Lee Hayes, of Granby, while walking through one of the passages in the hotel, fell and fractured a hip bone. Being over 70 years of age, even though possessed of good bodily health and vigor, made it a more serious matter. Fortunately good surgical help was easily procured, and loving hands were ready, and willing friends rendered all needed assistance. Although several months elapsed before she was fully able to be about, we learn that she has as fully recovered as could well be expected from her advanced years.

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*THE RECEPTION.*

After supper had been disposed of nearly all repaired to No. 138 Washington street, and all were royally welcomed and hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Lee, assisted by the hands of Mrs. Howard and her three fair daughters.

The Secretary is not skilled in describing such matters; all he can say is that one and all seemed to enjoy themselves to the utmost of their ability. Judging from appearances, all felt as did our kinsman R. H. Lee from Kansas, who, when asked how he enjoyed the occasion, said, "words failed to express it." Those who were present know well what those lost who were not. At a late hour they separated with joyous anticipations for the morrow.

## WEDNESDAY MORNING.

### SECOND DAY OF THE GATHERING.

Wednesday morning dawned bright and pleasant, and after breakfast the Lees turned their steps toward "Allyn Hall," and again began the greetings and congratulations on the success of the gathering. In due time the President again called to order and the business was disposed of, as mentioned in the Secretary's report.

### HISTORICAL LETTERS.

Then came the reading by F. J. Lee, of Howell, Mich., of interesting letters, one from Eathan Allen, and one from Benedict Arnold, both of which were written to Mr. Lee's grandfather in 1775, the commencement of the Revolution. Following are the letters:

*FROM EATHAN ALLEN.*

TICONDEROGA, 25 May 1775.

CAPT. NOAH LEE, Skeensborough:

Sir—This moment I have Red yours of the 23d True I am Meuch Incumbered in business Nevertheless I am apprised that Skeensborough is an Important Post Which Must be Ocupied by the Army for Liberty I am Satisfied you Have Conducted Worthily in that Station and am Contented you Should Command that Post Except You take Some adiquate Command with Me in the Front Part of the Army I Expect Shortly the Continental Congress will appoint a Commander for this Department So that You Need Not Hold Your Preferment under Arnold or Either the Core of G. M. Bogs Undoubtedly We Shall all be rewarded according to our Merit in this or the coming World from Your Friend

EATHAN ALLEN.

*FROM BENEDICT ARNOLD.*

TICONDEROG June 26th 1775.

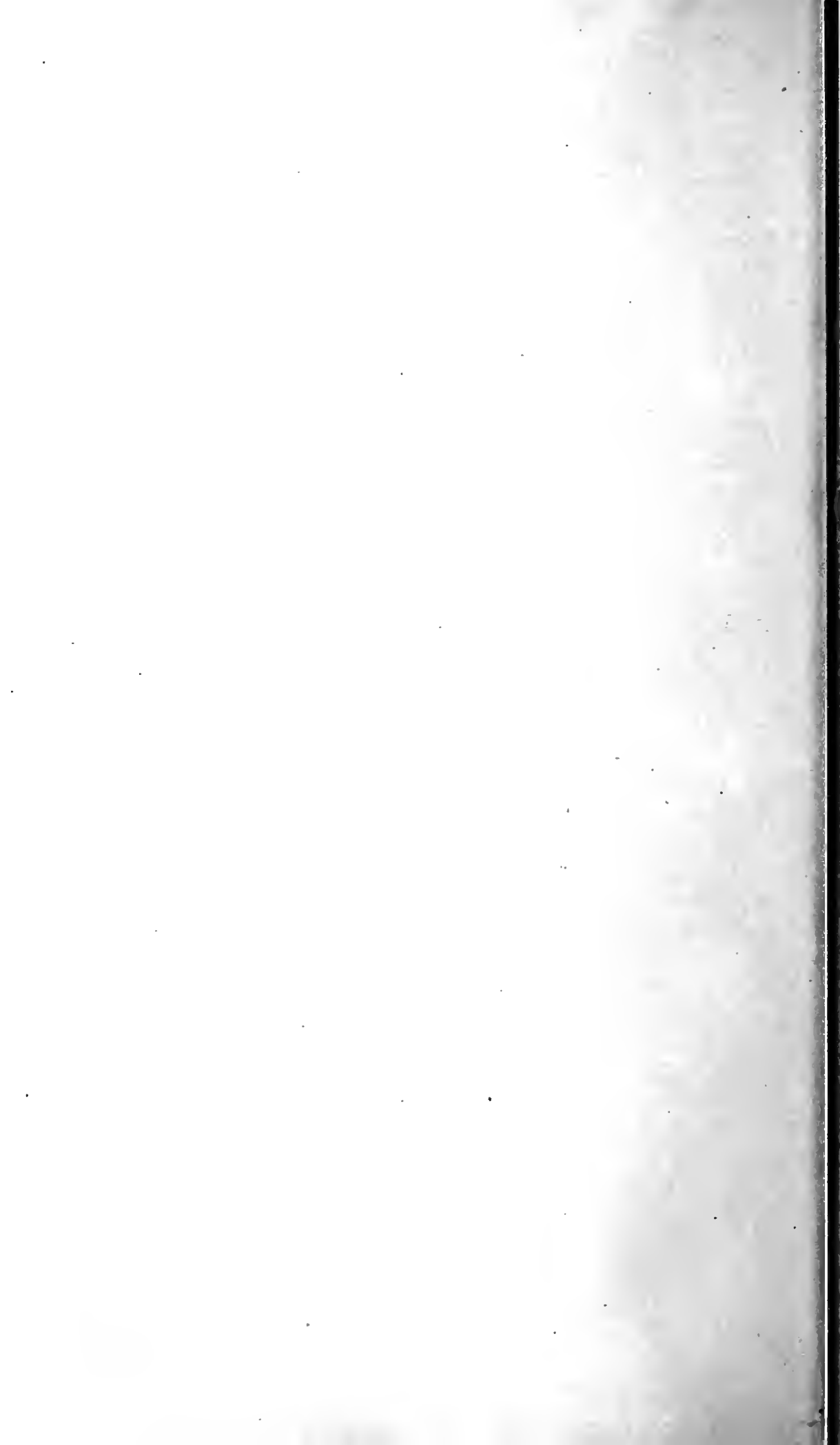
CAPT NOAH LEE:

Sir—On Recpt of this you will disband your Company & make out your muster Role from the time your men were enlisted until discharged alowing them time to go home You will also make out an amount of those now with you which you will bring up here attested When I Will Draw on the Provincial Congress for the same



*Frederick J. Lee.*

HOWELL, MICH.



If you decline to stay longer in the service you may probably have an appt. from Comr in the Congress to Whom I have resigned my Commission I am Disappointed of the Money promised me by the Congress of course cannot pay you which am very sorry for I am  
Sir yours Obt BEND ARNOLD.

P. S.—The Roan horse which Casker left with you will not let go out of your hands. B. A.

### CAPTAIN NOAH LEE.

Then came an interesting sketch of Captain Noah Lee, who served his country with the valor of a patriotic soldier in the revolutionary war. The interest in the sketch was heightened by the fact that it was prepared and delivered by his grandson, Frederick J. Lee, a prominent citizen of Howell, Mich., who journeyed to the Nutmeg State to join the throng. He recounted in graphic and concise sentences the valorous deeds of his ancestor, and the various campaigns in which he participated for freedom's sake, among them the historic battles of Ticonderoga, Saratoga, Yorktown and other places, as well as doing a private soldier's duty in the French war. But perhaps we had better let Mr. Lee tell the story as he did in the following brief paper :

#### THE SKETCH AS READ BY MR. LEE.

Col. Noah Lee was born October 15th, 1745. Was raised in Salisbury, Connecticut. At the age of 15 years enlisted as waiter to an officer in the army. When being mustered the commander of the regiment objected to him on account of age and size. But on being informed that he was only wanted as waiter to an officer, he passed him. From this time onward he devoted his time to the military service and the service of his country, and although young he never missed but one tour of duty in that campaign, which was one of the hardest the Colonies ever endured, being that of the year 1760.

In 1761 and '62 he was an enlisted soldier stationed at Crown Point. Following his military duties he became well acquainted with the country about Lake Champlain and vicinity, and in the spring of '66 he, with a Mr. Bird, made a large purchase of land in Castleton, Vermont, which they commenced to survey in the following June, preparatory to the beginning of a settlement of the township, they, Lee and Bird, being the first white men who ever stayed in the township over night. With his own hands he built a log shanty in which he stayed the following winter, not seeing the face of a white man for over six months. Here in the wilderness he remained until the breaking out of the Revolutionary war, in which

he took a very active part, raising and equipping a company of Green Mountain Boys at his own expense. He commenced aggressive operations at once against the British, capturing Major Skeene, British commanding officer at Skeensboro' (which is now called Whitehall), on the 3d day of May, which place he kept possession of until Ticonderoga and Crown Point were captured by the Americans. In conjunction with Benedict Arnold and Eathan Allen, they held supreme control in and about Lake Champlain, Lee paying from his own purse the expenses of the commissary department, which was repaid to him in future years in a depreciated currency, worth  $2\frac{1}{4}$  cents on the dollar.

He served his country all through the Revolutionary war as Captain, and in the years 1781, '82 and '83, was stationed at Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Learning that the British prisoners-of-war at that place were daily disappearing without leaving any clues to their manner of escape, he resolved to ascertain through whose assistance they evaded the vigilance of the American forces. For this purpose he disguised himself in the British uniform and went in among them, and with three or four of the prisoners made his escape, but was captured and ordered to be committed to prison at Philadelphia, where, being recognized by General Lincoln, was set at liberty and restored to his command with the highest praise for his adroitness and skillful management. By this perilous expedition he discovered the means of escape of the prisoners, and the traitors who aided them were brought to punishment. As a soldier he was prompt and efficient, remarkable for management, order and discipline in the conduct of his men. He was a great lover of his country, to which he was sincerely devoted, and never complained at the great sacrifice of time and money spent in its service, for which he never received any adequate remuneration.

In 1772 married Dorcas Bird, eldest daughter of James and Abigail Gridley Bird, of Litchfield, Connecticut. He died at Castleton, Vermont, much honored and beloved by all who knew him, May 5th, 1840. His wife died March, 1830.

Children—James. Born at Salisbury, Conn. Married Betsey Fairchild.

Children—Noah. Lucian.  
Henry. Harriett.  
Lewis G. Emily.  
Mariette. Charles.  
Caroline.

The latter now living at Fair Haven, Vermont, who can give more definite particulars.



Clarinda. Married Benjamin Carver. Lived and died at Castleton, Vermont.

Children—Leander, who died.

Caroline, married Dr. A. G. W. Smith.

Children—Jane C., now living at Pasadena, Los Angeles County, California, who can give further information of the family.

Henry Bird. Died 1808. Lawyer and Member of Congress at the time of his death.

Laura. Married Lyman Drake, of Castleton, Vermont, where she lived and died.

Children—Edward Lee. Born 1819. The first to successfully bore for oil in Titusville, Pa. He was pensioned by the State \$3,000 a year. Died at South Bethlehem in November, 1880.

Henry. Born in 1822. Died at Dansville, Ill.

Guy Carlton. Born in 1786. Married Sally Benedict at Danbury, Conn., 1810.

Children—George Washington. Born October 24, 1812. Died at Ypsilanti, Mich., June 7, 1882. No children.

Laurella. Born August, 1814. Married S. S. Derby, who died 1878. She is now living at Ypsilanti, Mich. No children.

Henry Bird. Born August, 1816. Married first Malvina Smith, who had one son, Fred. Wesley, now in the mercantile business in Montana; second, Agnes Chase, now living in Ypsilanti. One daughter, Lillie.

Clarinda. Born 1818. Married Leander C. Smith 1850. Died November 5, 1870. No children.

Frederick J. Born May 18, 1821, who married first Martha A. Olcott, of Rockingham, Vermont, who died September 20, 1874; second, Hattie B. Norton, of Detroit, January 4th, 1877.

Children—Rose E. Born August 21, 1839, who married Edward G. McPherson Howell, August, 1867.

Fred J. Born February 24, 1879. Died October, 1879.

Hattie Norton. Born December 16, 1881.

Betsey, oldest daughter of Noah. Born March 15, 1771. Married Stoddard Smith, May 24, 1796.

Children—Sophronia.

Angeline.

Rosella.

Pierpont Lee. Living at Howell, Michigan.

Laurella.

George Washington. Born 1873. Died.

Sophronia, youngest daughter of Col. Noah. Born 1795. Married William Jones. Lived at Castleton, Vt. Died in 1859.

Children—Washington G. Died.

Leander. Lives at Castleton.

Henry O.

Guy Carlton. Lives at Castleton.

Noah Lee. Died.

James. Died.

Lazine. Lives at Hydeville.

This gives the history of the descendants of Col. Noah Lee down to this time, so far as positively known. There are those who can furnish more definite information of the family of James, eldest son of Noah; also of the family of Betsy, eldest daughter of Noah.

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#### THE ACCIDENT.

Next came reference to the accident to the venerable Mrs. Charlotte L. Hayes, of Granby, already referred to, and Rev. A. L. Loveland, her nephew by marriage, spoke feelingly to the resolutions of sympathy unanimously adopted, and printed in the Secretary's report. We all remember Mr. Loveland's tender expressions, and few there who heard him felt that he would before another gathering be summoned from his earthly labors. But he has passed away, which prevents the publication of his remarks, death not having given him time to forward them, in accordance with an arrangement made. A sketch of the departed clergyman will be found in the Appendix.

#### OTHER REMARKS.

Rev. C. Russell Lee, Episcopal clergyman of Thorold, Canada, next spoke, and occupied a few minutes in an interesting way, expressing his gratitude for the opportunity of mingling with so many of his kin, who had before been entirely unknown to him, all trace of his family having been lost for nearly a century.

#### FINDING THE GRAVE OF JOHN LEE.

Mr. William Lee, of Marysville, O., a native of Berlin, in this State, briefly described the finding of the old stone, which marked the original burial place in Farmington, of John Lee, the emigrant, which, he said, was accomplished by Rev. Samuel Lee, also a native of Berlin and a near kinsman of the speaker. The burial spot is now marked by a handsome monument, erected by Wm. H. Lee, of New York. Mr. Lee spoke briefly, as he followed with the closing paper of the session, which was one of the most scholarly productions of the gathering. The subject was

## THE FORCES OF HEREDITY.

BY Wm. LEE, OF MARYSVILLE, OHIO.

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The forces of heredity to be ascribed to John Lee and Mary Hart Lee, with some observations relative to the religious and social characteristics of their descendants.

We must recognize very remarkable *forces of heredity* in parentage as evinced by the descendants of John Lee 1st, and Mary Hart Lee, our honored paternal and maternal ancestors.

Constitutionally, they had, in their physical organizations, great vitality and potentialities; their moral endowments were extraordinary, and their natural intellectual capabilities were not inferior.

These constitutional elements of their character were not only, in a large degree, determinate of what they were themselves, but such was their force, that they were transmitted to their children and children's children, as a common inheritance.

How did it come about that they came into the world with such endowments as they possessed?

The writer believes that it was their inheritance from an ancestry, to be transmitted to their descendants, so that their distinctive traits of character should not be lost, but pass down from generation to generation.

We have no specific information relative to the ancestors of John Lee 1st, or Deacon Stephen Hart, father of Mary Hart Lee, but we know from history something of the conditions of that part of the mother country, from which they emigrated at the period of, and prior to their emigration, and of the consequent influences, which not only impelled them to emigrate, but which had been so potent in determining their outlook upon human life; in giving force of purpose, and in shaping and giving tone and temper to their characters, and under these formative influences it is reasonable to infer that, more than one generation was concerned in furnishing the subjects to be moulded, as they were with such physical potentialities, such

strength of conscientious convictions, and such firmness and persistency of religious faith and purpose.

The writer believes that there was an augmenting force of heredity in preceding generations who had come into covenant relations with God, which secured the transmission of blessings to children and children's children, and this was true of the ancestors, both of John Lee and of Stephen Hart, the emigrants, and that, to the descendants from this joint source, there has been a rich heritage of transmitted physical, mental and moral forces and qualities, and of providential orderings and blessings.

In this sense pre-eminently "godliness is profitable, having the prominence of the life that now is, as well as of that which is to come."

The age attained by John Lee 1st, and his wife Mary Hart Lee (the one 70 years and the other 75, and then losing her life by falling from a horse, while still vigorous,) and the ages attained by their children is proof of great vitality, and is also evidence of prudent care of themselves, and of mental, moral and religious conditions conducive to long life.

The writer has assumed that our ancestors were the inheritors of benefits from their progenitors, because of a religious faith which had placed them in covenant relations with God.

In the book "John Lee and his descendants," (the compiler of which has placed us under great obligations,) some important facts are furnished from church records as the baptism of children and the formal connection of adults with the church, showing clearly for several generations, in all the branches of the descendants, the observance of these religious duties.

In several instances uniting with the church is mentioned as "owning the covenant." Now the baptism of children had this significance that their parents dedicated them to the service of God, covenanting to train them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and becoming in a manner sureties for their conduct and character, until they should reach an age to assume and "own the covenant for themselves." And the writer supposes that this was the import in all, or most cases, and so understood by those of whom it is said, at such or such time, they united with the church.

Our fathers were men of deep religious convictions and of rigid consciences, and if in some things their views were too narrow and antagonized too positively the natural and just liberties and prerogatives of others, whose views did not accord with theirs, they only showed themselves fallible, as all men may be, while they answered

their providential mission and contributed something to the world's progress in liberal and just views of human rights and duties. Having from their constitutional proclivities and aptitudes, and through their own methods of apprehension and reasoning, strong convictions, they acted upon them with firmness, in their own appropriate spheres, endeavoring to adapt themselves to their civil and social relations, outside of their immediate personal spheres, without the spirit of dictation or domination and without yielding unduly to the dictation of others.

Though unobtrusive, they were a positive force in the communities in which they lived, promotive of order and harmony and what has been conducive to the public welfare.

But in the sphere of the domestic relations, it is believed their characters have all been evinced in their happiest and brightest aspects.

Inter-marrying with other blood, the Lees have shown a positive force, without seeking to exercise an arbitrary control, but considerate of what was promotive of harmony and peace, have yielded readily to the preferences of their wives or husbands, as far as their consciences and deliberate judgment would permit, and they have shown themselves warmly affectionate and sympathetic, considerate, truthful, stable, and companionable, and devoted in their attachments. Hence it has been a good stock for engrafting with other stock, and such engrafting, the result, as may well be believed, has been of mutual advantage; and we need not and should not glory only in the stock whose virtues we more especially commemorate on this occasion—indeed, if it has often appeared that the commingling of other blood has resulted in endowments and acquisitions of pre-eminent excellence, we should rejoice in the fact. There are many things we would be glad to know of the personal history of the Lee family, of which there are no records.

Is all consigned to eternal oblivion that has not been recorded, or handed down to the living by tradition?

I do not believe it.

As we look back over the two and a half centuries since the first of our line of progenitors in this country began his career here, we know that a large number of his descendants who have acted their parts in the earthly life, have been laid in their graves—all that was mortal of them.

It is probably short of the truth to say that more than 4,000 of our kindred have departed this life.

It is a question of interest and a pertinent one on this occasion, are there family gatherings in the world of departed spirits?

The writer believes that there are, and that the saints in heaven find, in the "many mansions" there, ample number and appointments, in these mansions, for the assembling of families of kindred blood, collectively, or in such divisions and sub-divisions as their earthly ties and social affinities may render conducive to their happiness; and that genealogies and personal histories will be rehearsed.

Whatever the glories of the heavenly world may be, in the grandeur and sublimity of its objects and scenes of contemplation, in the joyousness of its "restful activities," and in the sympathetic association and companionship with the angelic orders of being. Whatever these may be there, of which mortal "eye hath not seen nor ear heard" even the similitudes, nor the human imagination in its earthly limitations conceived of, of blessedness, it can not be, that human beings in their exalted and glorified state, are to have no retrospective view of their personal relations and experiences, while pilgrims and sojourners on earth, where they were regenerated by the Holy Ghost from a sinful state and transformed by the renewing of their minds," and through this, with discipline and much chastening, brought within the provisions of the scheme of redemption through Jesus Christ, as the preliminary of their heavenly inheritance.

So much is involved in the issues of the present life, in its joys and in its sorrows that the saints in heaven can not forget, nor cease to take interest in their earthly experiences.

The memories and recitals of earthly experiences, since the earthly is preliminary and preparatory to the heavenly, it may be readily imagined would not detract from, but rather enhance the appreciation and enjoyment of the, to us, unrevealed and unimagined glories of that upper world.

The writer believes therefore that, if we are prepared for the heavenly inheritance, when we pass away from the scenes of earth, we shall go to participate in the meetings of kindred and congenial spirits in the heavenly mansion, and be made acquainted with their individual personal experiences of the earthly life.

Many things that we should be glad to know on this special family gathering, but can not learn here, the writer believes we shall know there.

We shall know the long line,  
Through which we have come,  
Of each generation,  
From father to son;  
They will tell us the story,  
Each one from his birth,  
Of their joys and their sorrows,  
While here on the earth.

Will tell of their follies,  
Their errors and sins,  
And recall how the change  
To new life begins.  
We shall know the good mothers,  
Whose nurture and care,  
Reared children for God  
To be taken up there.  
Their love and their aptitudes  
There may have sway,  
And Heaven be made home-like,  
In the mother's own way.  
If the best of earth's treasures  
Are transferred above,  
Then surely will go there  
The true mother's love.

This was received, as in fact were all the papers which were read, with earnest attention, which showed the deep interest which was felt by our kindred in all matters that pertained to our family history, and since the adjournment of our gathering, Mr. Lee has given additional interest and value to his paper, by furnishing a "supplemental note," which we are pleased to give place to in this publication :

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### SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE.

BY WILLIAM LEE, MARYSVILLE, OHIO.

In the paper read by the undersigned at Hartford, Conn., in August, 1884, on the Forces of Heredity, represented by John Lee 1st, and Mary Hart Lee, no distinctive traits of character as belonging to the one or the other were specified, but the two were regarded as a *unit*. But distinctive constitutional traits belonged to each, and as the writer has known many of the lineal descendants of Stephen Hart, of Farmington, besides those descended from Mary Hart Lee, and has had opportunity from personal observation and otherwise of knowing their characteristics, he submits the following brief comparative statements relative to the difference between the Lees and Harts in their mental peculiarities.

The Harts have shown more aptitude and ambition for acquiring literary knowledge, and from their mental organizations have been more self-reliant, and as a consequence of their literary tendencies their minds have been better furnished for public occasions when ready and pertinent oral and written speeches have been called for.

The Lees have not only been self-reliant but less ambitious, so that, when qualified by intelligence to take a prominent part in public affairs they have commonly been inclined to shrink from it.

The Harts have had naturally a more ready command of language,

and have been more inclined to give expression to their thoughts and feelings in the ordinary social relations of life.

The Lees have not been so fluent in speech, nor so much inclined to express their sentiments.

Deep and warm social affections and attachments have characterized both the Lees and the Harts.

The children of John Lee 1st and Mary Hart Lee, and the subsequent generations of their descendants are to be regarded as inheriting the *united elements* of their progenitors.

In some instances their children and descendants have inherited the dominant elements of the Lee type of character, and in other cases the Hart peculiarities have been predominant; but in all cases it would seem that much of the united elements of both types of character have been evinced by the numerous Lee family descended from John Lee 1st and Mary Hart Lee.

WILLIAM LEE.

Marysville, O., June 1, 1885.

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## LETTERS FROM ABSENTEES.

A large number of letters from those desiring to attend, but were unable to do so, were received. The few selected for publication, and appended, is a fair reflex of the whole:

*FROM DR. STRATHY, HARBORNE, ENGLAND.*

HARBORNE, NEAR BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND, July 16th, 1884.

MY DEAR MR LEE:

Please accept my sincere thanks for your kind invitation to be your guest during the gathering next month, of the descendants of John Lee of Farmington. It is with great regret that I am unable to be present or to accept your hospitality, owing to various circumstances beyond my control. For although brother fought against brother and father against son, 100 years ago, all such feelings of antagonism have long since passed into oblivion, and it would give me great pleasure to give the right hand of good fellowship to all who shall assemble to do honor to the memory of our common ancestor.

With reference to the Lees of Canada, it is nearly a century ago since they settled in the Upper Province. With few exceptions, the sons have followed the medical profession, and were respected far and wide, notably my grandfather, Dr. Hiram Davis Lee, who practiced in the Niagara district about sixty years ago, and after-



wards in London, Canada West, reference to whom you will see in the pedigree I sent you.

On referring to the Lee Book, page 90, No. 14, will be found the name of Dr. Ebenezer Lee. From him and his son, Dr. William Hooker Lee, are the Canadian Lees descended.

When the war of Independence took place, Dr. Ebenezer Lee was a successful physician at Farmington, Connecticut, but, remaining loyal to England, he and his family were divided against each other; and not long after the independence of the United States was established, he and his son, William Hooker Lee, crossed over to Canada, and settled in Burford Gore. Dr. Ebenezer Lee was married to Abigail Bull, niece of the noted Dr. Bull of Connecticut. They had many hardships to undergo in settling in the new country, and at first they had only a small log house to live in, and boards not being readily obtainable, they had to be satisfied with hanging a blanket at the entrance to form a door.

I have now in my possession a large metal mortar and pestle which belonged to him in those days, and I have often been told by their granddaughter, now an old lady 80 years of age, that at that time Mrs. Lee was obliged to pound corn in this very mortar, to make meal, so scarce were mills. They died within a year of each other, each reaching the ripe age of 84 years, and are buried at Burford Gore.

Family tradition has always led us to believe that they were a branch of the Lees of Virginia, and it is only within the last two years that I learned of the Lee Book having been published, and after procuring it, I was enabled to trace the Canadian family back to the original John Lee of Farmington.

I regret that I had not discovered the family sooner from which our branch became estranged, so that the Canadian pedigree which I have furnished you with, might have been inserted. However, I fervently hope that the Lee gathering of 1884 will result in a new and revised edition of the Lee Book. Should such a work be taken in hand, I shall be only too pleased to give any information I can, that might be of interest.

The Lees of Essex and Buckinghamshire are descended from the Lees of Lee Hall, Cheshire, and are undoubtedly a very ancient family. The lord of the manor being thus described, "Sir Walter as Lee of ye Mannor of Lee, of Lee Hall those in ye Parish of Wibenbury in ye County Palatine of Chester ye 36 year of King Edward ye 3. Whose ancestors had been there seated for ages." From this family were the Earls of Litchfield descended; also the

renowned Sir Henry Lee of Quarrenden, Knight of the Garter, so well known as the Queen's Knight in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

In fact, for the past 400 years in Great Britain the Lees have occupied a prominent place in the social and political world.

In the present Lee Book it states that Richard Lee, the founder of the Virginian family of that name, was a son of Launcelot Lee of Cotton, in the County of Shropshire. That is a mistake.\* It also states that he is described in his will as "late of Stratford Langton, County of Essex, England." This is correct; but he was the son of Sir Robert Lee, who married Lucy Pigott, and lived at Stratford Langton, Co. Essex, and belonged to the family of Lee of Quarrenden, Buckinghamshire.

Since learning that John Lee, the emigrant, belonged to Colchester, in the County of Essex, of which fact in my opinion there is no doubt, I have taken some interest to try and find out from which family he came. The name being met with chiefly in the counties of Cheshire, Shropshire, Buckinghamshire and Essex.

Some time back, Sir Albert Woods, Garter King of Arms, sent me the pedigree of Jeffrey Lee of Loughton, in the County of Essex, Gentleman, and of Furinvalls, June, 1664, whose wife was Annah, daughter of John Lee of Colchester, in the County of Essex.

It is possible, and I think quite probable, that this Annah and John Lee of Farmington were brother and sister. The entry is taken from the Herald's Visitation of Essex, made in the year 1664, and at that time our ancestor was just 44 years of age, so that there is nothing to contradict this supposition as regards dates. For although this emigrant had then been in New England 20 or 25 years, may he not have had a sister remain behind him in Colchester, who afterwards married Jeffrey Lee of Loughton. However, whether this be true or not, I think it is something that may yet be of service to us, in tracing our family further back.

I believe the Lees of Cheshire to be our original stock, and that John Lee, our ancestor's family, was an offshoot from one of the Essex branches descended from Cheshire.

Wishing success to the Lee gathering of 1884, and with many thanks to you and Mrs. Lee for your kind invitation, and with kind regards, in which my wife joins. Believe me, yours sincerely,

FREDERIC R. LEE STRATHY.

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\*This error as to the father of Richard of Virginia is taken from Mead's Genealogy of the Lees of Virginia, which is wanting in accuracy in other respects.

FROM REV. LUCIUS ORREN LEE.

A MISSIONARY IN

MARASH, TURKEY IN ASIA, July 2, 1884.

WM. W. LEE, ESQ., MERIDEN, CT.,

Your letters and circulars are received. It would afford me unspeakable pleasure to attend the gathering of the Lee family at Hartford, but duty at my post as a humble missionary, precludes the idea, and so many oceans roll between us, that the voyage seems impracticable at this time. Be assured, however, that though absent in person, I will be with you in spirit.

You have wrought out a noble work, in bringing into communication so many of our kindred who have been hitherto strangers to each other, and God speed the day when we may know each other better. Sincerely, your kinsman,

LUCIUS O. LEE.

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FROM DR. WILLIAM LEE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 18, 1884.

MY DEAR MR. AND MRS. W. H. LEE :

I feel very much flattered at your polite remembrance of me by your kind invitation to attend the Lee Anniversary. I wish you every success and regret that, although I am not a Connecticut Lee, I cannot be present. I am sure I must be a cousin, dating from over the water.

If there is any published account of your gathering, either in the newspapers, or in a more pretentious and satisfactory form, I hope you will again remember me, and let me have the benefit of it.

If there is any discussion upon the connection between the Lees of this country and the Lees of Great Britain, I hope it will be remembered that at Ditchly, Lord Dillon has valuable manuscripts which he himself has stated may throw light upon this subject, and that it is probable that access could be gained to them by a gentleman of diplomatic address, provided with personal letters and credentials. I believe that every year our English cousins are becoming more in sympathy with us in these matters, and to appreciate more and more the fact that they have locked up in their *muniment* rooms, valuable and destructible material, that should be brought to light, overhauled, and put to a useful purpose.

Although I believe I can claim to be an older relative, your ancestor John Lec leaving England, April 10, 1634, my ancestor John Lee, being already in the colony April 1, 1634.

It is interesting to me to note the names in the collateral branches.

in the Lee families, I see the name of Hungerford among yours. My ancestor John Lee married Anna Hungerford about 1638, and I have a copy of an interesting letter from her brother Thomas, written from Pequot, [now New London,] 1657.

If any Hungerford relatives are present at your reunion, this may be an interesting item.

Again wishing you a most successful anniversary, I remain

Yours very truly,

DR. WM. LEE.

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*FROM PROF. BUSHNELL AND WIFE.*

WESTERVILLE, O., July 24th, 1884.

MR. AND MRS. WM. H. LEE :

Dear Friends—We are very grateful for your kind invitation to be present at the Lee gathering on the 5th prox., and regret to say, as I have already said, that it will not be in our power to attend.

It would give us great pleasure to grasp the hand and look into the eye of those we already know, as those more remote in relationship and connection, and whom we have not met. We hope you may have a general response to your invitations, and feel repaid for your efforts to bring about this meeting.

Very sincerely your “cousins,”

HENRY BUSHNELL,

HARRIET M. BUSHNELL.

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*FROM THE LAND OF ORANGES.*

TALLAHASSEE, FLA., July 25, 1884.

Mrs. John Blyman and Mrs. E. S. Thomson present their compliments to Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Lee with regrets at their inability to be present on the occasion of the family gathering August 5th.

We send however. our best wishes for the happiness of the occasion, and our fraternal regards to our kinspeople assembled.

*FROM SAMUEL W. LEE.*

BEVINGTON, IOWA, March 5, 1884.

W. W. LEE, MERIDEN, CONN.,

I fully approve the call for a family gathering of the "Lees." Yet I felt some doubt about signing the enclosed call, for the reason that there is no probability that I shall be there.

Earlier in my life, I took no interest in such matters, for I felt that in this country every man was the architect of his own fortune. But investigation and observation have taught me that he who has a long line of ancestors, of known integrity and moral worth, has a better chance than one whose origin is the opposite of these.

Blood will tell, not only in physical strength, but also in moral and mental force.

With kind regards to you personally, and with an earnest wish that my kindred may have a grand gathering in August,

I remain yours, &c.,

SAMUEL W. LEE.

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*FROM REV. HAMILTON R. LEE.*

EAST OAKLAND, CAL., February 26, 1884.

WM. WALLACE LEE,

Dear Sir—It will be impossible for me to attend the family gathering to which your printed circular refers, although I approve of the plan, and would like, if I could, to be present

Yours very truly,

HAMILTON R. LEE.

## THE FORMAL CLOSE.

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Thus closed the formal literary exercises and left only the details of business, such as a permanent organization, a group picture, and the trip to Farmington, all of which are told in the Secretary's report. Among the closing proceedings, votes of thanks were passed to the President and other officers.

### *RESPONSE OF PRESIDENT LEE.*

In responding to the vote of thanks to the President of the meeting, he said: "Friends and kindred, I cannot but appreciate this action of yours and the kindly brotherly feeling which is thus expressed. This occasion, with one exception, which we all deeply regret, has been one of unalloyed pleasure. I had anticipated much for this gathering, and it has been realized. We have here formed friendships which will be a source of pleasure to us while life shall last. We shall all feel a deeper interest in each other, a tenderer regard for each other on account of this meeting. We are now about to separate, never more to meet in this earth life as we have met here. I firmly hope and believe we shall have many more family gatherings, but it is not in human probability, hardly in human possibility, that we can all meet again 'this side of the river.' Each succeeding year will summon some of our members to the unseen world, but while we live let us fondly cherish our love for and interest in each other, and keep alive and teach to our children to preserve unsullied our good name and the honorable record of our common ancestry. And now, as the President of this, the first family gathering of the descendants of John Lee, of Farmington, Conn., I declare this meeting adjourned *sine die*."

### *BENEDICTION.*

The gathering then rose, and stood with bowed heads, while Rev. C. Russell Lee, of Thorold, Ont., pronounced the Benediction, a fitting end to an assemblage that closed as it opened, by an invocation for God's blessing.

### *AFTER ADJOURNMENT.*

After the adjournment nearly all repaired to the Capitol grounds where a group picture was taken, which, considering the large number in the group, was very successfully done.

Then came the dinner and the ride to Farmington. A large om-

nibus had been provided, which was filled to overflowing by a merry group, while others went by single teams and private conveyances. It was one of the pleasantest of August sunny days. The heat was tempered by a gentle summer breeze, and the ride thither was past comfortable farm-houses, well cultivated fields, and the pleasant surroundings which tell of thrift and contentment. Arriving at Farmington the place was found (where Miss Porter's famous school now is) which John Lee redeemed from Nature's wilderness many years ago. Over this the visitors rambled, to them almost sacred ground. Thence to the old cemetery where so many of our kindred have been laid, and all gathered about the monument spoken of earlier in this book. Very few of them had ever visited the town before, and consequently it had for them a deep and peculiar fascination. They tarried until the declining sun warned them that it was high time to start on their return to Hartford, and so with pleasant thoughts of the ancestral home which many of them would see no more, they bade the home of John Lee good-bye, and when the shades of night fell they met for the parting. The good-byes were said, hands were clasped which will never be clasped again, each invoking blessing upon the other and making pledges of future correspondence, and with hopes that each one might be spared to come to the next meeting, they parted. And thus the first meeting of the Farmington Lees passed into history.

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## OFFICERS, ETC.

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When the permanent organization was effected on the second day, we were too much hurried to be able to make a careful selection of Vice-Presidents, and several names were overlooked that should have been included at that time. Deeming it of great importance to enlist as many as possible in the work of historical research and tracing out the lost branches, the Secretary, a few weeks after the adjournment, prepared and sent out an additional list of names for Vice-Presidents to the Official Board for their approval, if they deemed it a wise measure, and was glad to learn that his suggestion met with unanimous approval. He felt justified in using these names, from the zeal and interest they had manifested heretofore in the family history, and confident that these parties would in the

future assist, so far as lies in their power, in the work which we all have so much at heart.

Where there is more than one Vice-President in the same locality they are of separate family branches, the object of that being to enlist many of our kindred in tracing out the different branches of the family. These names will be found inserted in the regular list of officers of the Association. By the death of the Rev. A. L. Loveland the office of Treasurer of the Association became vacant. The Secretary shortly after issued notifications to all the Official Board, and asked them, by vote, to designate some one to fill the vacancy, and by vote of nearly all the Secretary was elected to the position, and the full Board of officers is as follows:..

### *President.*

— WILLIAM H. LEE, of New York.

### *Vice-Presidents.*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ✓ G. Henry Lee, Waterford, N. Y.         | Lebbeus Lee, San Jose, Cal.                |
| — Dr. Mary W. Lee, Oswego, N. Y.         | Rev. C. Russell Lee, Thorold, Ontario.     |
| Charles E. Lee, Rochester, N. Y.         | G. Herbert Lee, St. John, N. B.            |
| William Henry Lee, Tewksbury, Mass.      | Curtis M. Lee, Cleveland, Ohio.            |
| — Willard O. Lee, Springfield, Mass.     | Sarah Fiske Lee, New Ipswich, N. H.        |
| John Lee Draper, Providence, R. I.       | Maria Merrick Lee, Pittsfield, Mass.       |
| — Miss Sarah M. Lee, Norwich, Conn.      | John Wesley Lee, Poultney, Vt.             |
| Lorenzo P. Lee, Jr., New Britain, Conn.  | Charles Lee, Kent, Conn.                   |
| R. B. Lee Westover, Castleton, Vt.       | George Henry Lee, Bridgeport, Conn.        |
| Edgar J. Lee, Troy, Penn.                | — George Carlton Lee, New York, N. Y.      |
| Alvah Bushnell, Philadelphia, Pa.        | — Henry V. B. Lee, Long Island City, N. Y. |
| — Henry A. Lee, Sandusky, Ohio.          | — N. Smith Lee, Oneida, N. Y.              |
| — William Lee, Marysville, Ohio.         | — John Randolph Lee, Buffalo, N. Y.        |
| Fred J. Lee, Howell, Mich.               | — Andrew Frink Lee, Buffalo, N. Y.         |
| — William Wallace Lee, Bristol, Ind.     | — Thomas Lee, Westmoreland, N. Y.          |
| — Augustine N. Lee, Chicago, Ill.        | — Thomas Lee, Bloomfield, Penn.            |
| Rev. Albert Lee, Dixon, Ill.             | James Wright Lee, Cleveland, Ohio.         |
| — Henry Lee, Aleedo, Ill.                | — Ebenezer Lee, Fredericton, Ohio.         |
| — Leonard Lee, Kenosha, Wis.             | Dr. Fred. R. Lee Strathy, Harborne, near   |
| — Charles H. Lee, Janesville, Wis.       | Birmingham, Eng.                           |
| — Francis Lee, Clinton, Iowa.            | William H. Lee, Woodland, Mich.            |
| Rev. Samuel W. Lee, Bevington, Iowa.     | Herbert M. Lee, Nashville, Mich.           |
| Bernard A. Lee, Minneapolis, Minn.       | Jephtha Gaylord Lee, Mukwango, Wis.        |
| Robert A. Lee, Louisville, Ky.           | — Benjamin F. Lee, North Lacrosse, Wis.    |
| John W. N. Lee, Duplex, Tenn.            | — Luther Clark Lee, Aurora, Ill.           |
| John W. Lee, New Orleans, La.            | — George R. Lee, Aurora, Ill.              |
| — Hiram J. Lee, St. Louis, Mo.           | — Samuel Brown Lee, Sr., Duplex, Tenn.     |
| David Charles Lee, St. Louis, Mo.        | Charles Philemon Lee, Grenola, Kan.        |
| — Richard H. Lee, Spring Hill, Kan.      | — Edward Butler Lee, Denver, Col.          |
| — Charles Lee, Denver, Col.              | Rev. Frank T. Lee, Salt Lake City, Utah.   |
| Rev. Hamilton R. Lee, East Oakland, Cal. | Benjamin F. Lee, Oakland, Cal.             |
| — Samuel C. Lee, Baltimore, Md.          | Graham Lee, Hamlet, Ill.                   |

### *Secretary and Treasurer.*

WILLIAM WALLACE LEE, Meriden, Conn.

### *Assistant Secretary.*

THOMAS G. LEE, Rochester, N. Y.

— Lee





*H. J. Lee.*  
ST. LOUIS, MO.



## THE REGISTRY.

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It was the intention, and was so stated at a very early period in the session, that we wanted to obtain a full and complete registration of all those in attendance, with their full names (not initials), and places of birth and residence, but the results were very unsatisfactory. It was often spoken of by the President, and urged that no one should omit it, and yet, despite all our efforts, many retired without even giving their names to the Registrar, who had been appointed for that special purpose. The list is here appended, as the Registrar prepared it, with some additional names of those whom the Secretary knew were present.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Hezekiah Fitch Lee, Binghamton, N. Y.</li> <li>Chas. E. Lee, Rochester, N. Y.</li> <li>Thos. G. Lee, " " "</li> <li>✓ William Henry Lee, New York,</li> <li>Louisa Maria Lee, New York,</li> <li>✓ Richard Henry Lee, Spring Hill, Kansas.</li> <li>✓ Andrew F. Lee, Buffalo, N. Y.</li> <li>Rev. Charles Russell Lee, M. A., Thorold, Ontario, Can.</li> <li>✓ Rev. John Stebbins Lee, D. D., Canton, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y.</li> <li>✓ Henry Lee, Aleedo, Ill.</li> <li>Mrs. L. F. Judd (Josephine Lee), New Britain, Ct.</li> <li>Edgar James Lee, Troy, Pa.</li> <li>Joseph A. Lee, Hartford, Ct.</li> <li>Fred J. Lee and wife, Howell, Mich.</li> <li>Mrs. Hattie Lee, Vernon, Vt.</li> <li>Mrs. A. Burlingame, Springfield, Mass.</li> <li>✓ Mrs. Charlotte L. Hayes, Granby, Conn.</li> <li>✓ Dr. Mary V. Lee, Oswego, N. Y.</li> <li>✓ Kate Lee Stevens, Montgomery, Ala.</li> <li>Katie Lee Davidson, Montgomery, Ala.</li> <li>✓ Mrs. Mortimer F. Lee, Bristol, Ct.</li> <li>Josephine Brooks Lee, Waterford, N. Y.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maria Antoinette McKenney, Jefferson, Wis.</li> <li>Sarah Fiske Lee, New Ipswich, N. H.</li> <li>Finette Cooke Lee, Plainville, Ct.</li> <li>Chas. E. Lee, New Britain, Ct.</li> <li>Mrs. Chas. E. Lee, " "</li> <li>Arthur L. Lee, " "</li> <li>Willard O. Lee, Springfield, Mass.</li> <li>Mrs. Willard O. Lee, " "</li> <li>Frank W. Lee, " "</li> <li>Hattie L. Lee, " "</li> <li>Paulina Lee Tompkins, Plainville, Ct.</li> <li>James H. Folan, New York City.</li> <li>✓ Mrs. Elvira E. Lee Folan, N. Y. City.</li> <li>Florentine Emily Folan, "</li> <li>Lillian Ada Folan, "</li> <li>Eld Joseph L. Wood (wife Julia A. Wood), Sepaug, New Hartford, Ct.</li> <li>✓ Julia Ann Lee Wood, Sepaug, New Hartford, Ct.</li> <li>Win. Wallace Lee, Meriden, Ct.</li> <li>Mrs. Win. W. Lee, " "</li> <li>Edwin E. Smith, " "</li> <li>Mrs. E. E. Smith, " "</li> <li>Lorenzo P. Lee, 84 years old, New Britain, Ct.</li> <li>Owen E. Case, Barkhamsted, Ct.</li> <li>A. Belle Lee Case, " "</li> <li>Mary Lewis Hart, " "</li> </ul> |
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*Hezekiah*

- Lucy Lee Seymour, Bristol, Ct.
- Alvah Bushnell, Philadelphia.
- Mrs. Annie Faxon Bushnell, "
- Sarah Pratt Lee, Winsted, Ct.
- Elizabeth Lee Eggleston, 88 years old, Pleasant Valley, Ct
- Ellen Eggleston Howd, Pleasant Valley, Ct.
- Anna Lee Hart, Hartford, Ct.
- Leverette D. Kenea, Thomaston, Ct.
- Lucy Lee Gregory, Union Vale, Dutchess Co., N. Y.
- Mary L. Gregory, "
- Hattie A. Gregory, "
- George L. Gregory, "
- Emily E. Lee, Southington, Ct.
- Anna C. Lee, " "
- Frederick Richard Lee, " "
- James L. Lee, East Hartford, Ct.
- Mrs. James L. Lee, " "
- James W. Lee, Cleveland, O.
- Mrs. James W. Lee, " "
- C. Carlton Lee, " "
- George D. Lee, " "
- Henry C. Lee, " "
- George H. Lee, Hartford, Ct.
- Eddie W. Muzzy, Bristol, Ct.
- Henry Amos Lee, Sandusky, O.
- Levi Jewett, M. D., Middle Had-dam, Ct.
- Laurella Lee Derby, Ypsilanti, Mich.
- Rev. Spofford D. Jewett and wife, Middlefield, Ct.
- Abigail G. Jewett, Middlefield, Ct.
- Mrs. Mary Lee Andrews, New Britain, Ct.
- Cornelius Andrews, N. Britain, Ct.
- Minnie L. Andrews, " "
- A. Mills and wife, Middlefield, Ct.
- Jennie Andrews Mills and son, "
- Herbert Lee Mills, "
- Mrs. Catherine Andrews, Water-bury, Ct.
- and daughter, Mary Lee Andrews, Waterbury, Ct.
- and son, Arthur Andrews, Water-bury, Ct
- Thos. Goodrich Lee, New York.
- Charles N. Lee, " "
- Grace Lee Smidt, " "
- Grace Lee Smidt, 2d, " "
- Grace Lee, " "
- Carrie C. Lee, " "
- Henry N. Lee, New Britain, Ct.
- Isaac N. Lee, " "
- Leonard Lee, Kenosha, Wis.
- Mark T. Lee, Minneapolis, Minn.
- Thurlow Lee, " "
- Harriet Lee Foster, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- Emma L. Allen, Sepaug, New Hartford, Ct.
- Martha C. Ingersoll, Amenia, N. Y.
- A. Spencer Harrison, 111 Oak st., Hartford, Ct.
- Willard Edwin Folan, N. Y. City.
- Mrs. Marion E. Harrison, 111 Oak St., Hartford, Ct.
- Miss Ellen M. Harrison, 111 Oak St., Hartford, Ct.
- A. F. Alderman, Collinsville, Ct.
- Helen Lee Alderman, " "
- Carrie L. Alderman, " "
- Helen L. Fitch, Southington, " "
- Edward F. Harrison, 111 Oak St., Hartford, Ct.
- Rev. A. L. Loveland, Granby, Ct.
- Martha Lee Loveland, " "
- Adna H. Neal, Southington, " "
- Nancy Abigail Peck Neal, " "
- James W. Woodruff, St. Louis, Mo.
- William Lee, Marysville, O.
- Elizabeth Lee Farnham, Bristol, Ct.
- Lorenzo P. Lee, Jr., New Britain, Ct.
- Charles M. Lee, Springfield, Mass.
- Philip W. Lee, " "
- William H. Lee, " "
- Lizzie N. Lee, " "
- Mary C. Lee, " "
- Elizabeth Lee Shluyter, Hartford, Ct.
- George Henry Lee, Bridgeport, Ct.
- Etta N. Lee, " "
- Jennie E. Lee, " "
- Thos. F. Lee, New York.
- Wm. H. Lee, Tewksbury, Mass.
- Caroline Lee, New Britain, Ct.
- Leslie William Lee, " "
- Gad Henry Lee, Waterford, N. Y.
- Annie Lee Bushnell, aged 5 years, Philadelphia, Pa.
- Augustine N. Lee, Chicago, Ill.
- Frederick H. Lee, " "
- Mrs. Mary L. Lee, " "
- Henrietta I. Lee, Evanston, "
- Chester Peck Loomis, Granby, Ct.
- Mrs. Eliza L. Loomis, " "
- Jennie Lee Loomis, " "
- Allan Campbell Lee Smidt, N. Y. City.
- Mrs. Emily Lee Martin, Philadel-phia.
- Mrs. Emily Lee, Buffalo, N. Y.
- Mark Howard, Hartford, Ct.
- Isaac S. Lee, St. Louis, Mo.
- Julia H. Lee, " "
- Allan Lee Smidt, N. Y. City.
- George H. Sage, Berlin, Ct.
- F. Mortimer Baker, 242 Pearl St., Hartford, Ct.

- Mrs. Caroline A. Lee Camp, Waterbury, Ct.
- John W. N. Lee, Duplex, Tenn.
- Mrs. Angeline Lee Howard, Hartford, Ct.
- Miss Lena Lee Howard, Hartford, Ct.
- Miss Amy Lee Howard, Hartford, Ct.
- Miss Myra Lee Howard, Hartford, Ct.
- Mrs. Isaac N. Lee, New Britain, Ct.
- Mrs. Mary A. Andrews, Southington, Ct.
- Mrs. Alice Lee Wells, Bridgeport, Ct.
- Miss Amy Lee Wells, Bridgeport, Ct.
- Rev. Burdette Hart, New Haven, Ct.
- Mrs. Burdette Hart, “ “
- Mrs. Jeanette Lee Coe, Winsted, “
- Pomeroy Lee, aged 7 yrs., Troy, Pa.
- Theresa Lee, New Britain, Ct.
- William Lee Howard, Hartford, Ct.
- Mrs. L. P. Lee, Jr., New Britain, Ct.
- Mrs. Bernard A. Lee, Minneapolis, Minn.
- Mrs. Philip Lee, New Britain, Ct.
- Bernard A. Lee, Minneapolis, Minn.
- Curtis Miles Lee, Cleveland, O.
- Thomas W. Lee, St. John, N. B.
- G. Herbert Lee, “ “
- Charles Lee, Kent, Ct.
- Sarah Marsh Lee, Norwich, Ct.
- Bret Hart Baker, 242 Pearl St., Hartford, Ct.
- Henry Sage, Berlin, Ct.
- Florence Sage, “ “
- Lauraette Kenea Sage, “ “
- Mrs. Fanny H. Lee Fish, Binghampton, N. Y.
- Mrs. J. Edwards Lee, Salisbury, Ct.
- Mrs. L. Jewett, Middle Haddam, “
- Arthur P. Jewett, “ “
- J. Frank Pratt, Southington, “
- Hiram J. Lee, St. Louis, Mo.
- Wm. Wallace Muzzy, Bristol, Ct.
- Mrs. Anna Lee Muzzy, “ “
- Francis Lee, Clinton, Iowa.
- Mrs. Francis Lee, “ “
- Grace R. Lee, “ “
- Annie R. Watrous, Hartford, Ct.
- Mrs. Guilford Smith, So. Windham, Ct.
- Ellen F. Lathrop, Willimantic, Ct.
- Mrs. Hiram Bailey, Nashua, Iowa.
- Hiram Bailey, “ “
- Mrs. Sarah Lee Leonard, Westfield Mass.
- James L. Flint, New Britain, Ct.
- Mrs. Julia Lee Flint, “ “
- Henry Noah Martin, Philadelphia.
- John Lee Draper, Providence, R. I.
- Harriet Lee Draper, So. Attleboro, Mass.
- Geo. Lee Draper and wife, South Attleboro, Mass.
- James Nelson Lee, Bristol, Ct.
- Walsingham Lee, “ “

## WITH US IN SPIRIT.

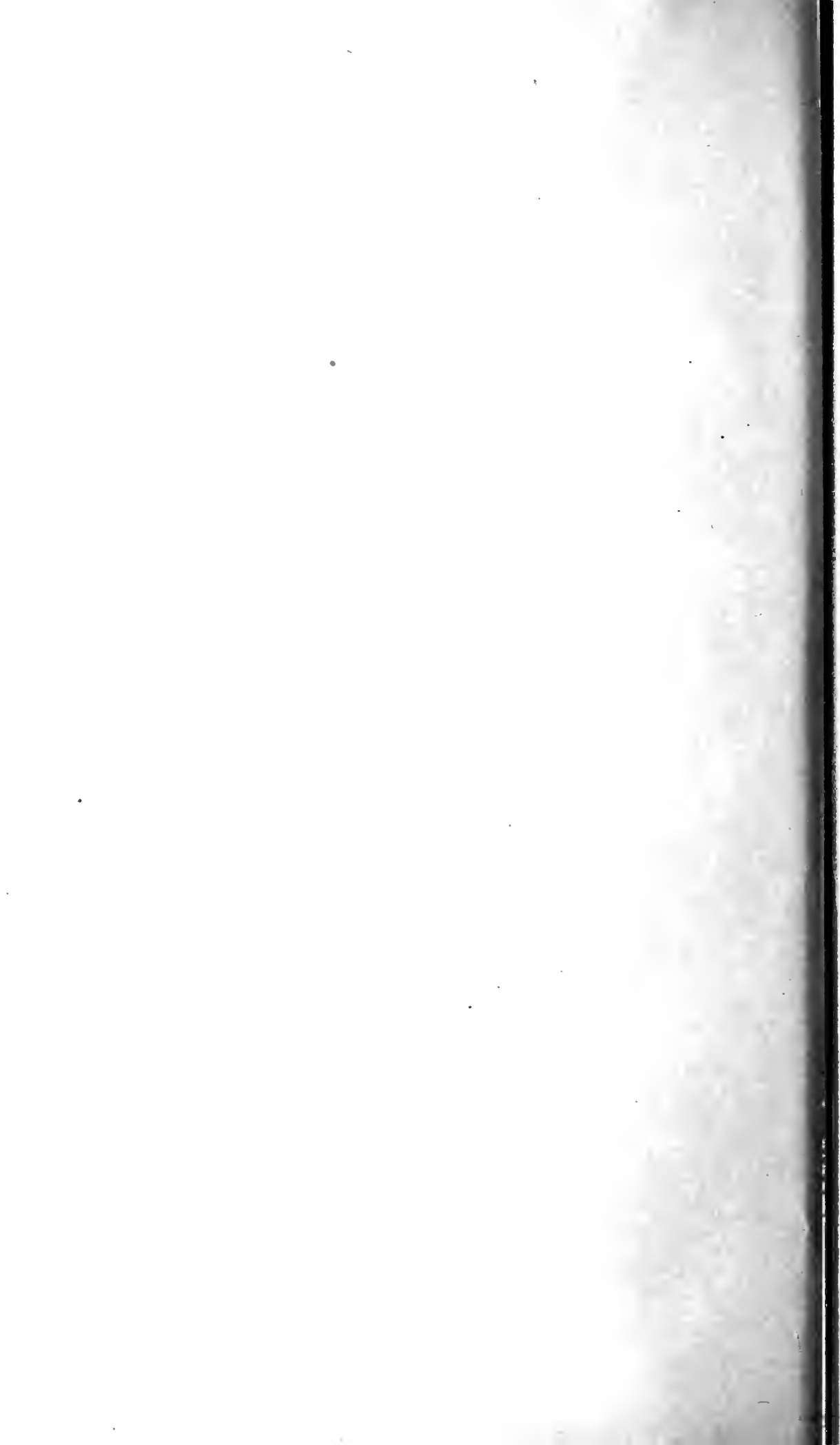
During the progress of the work of awakening an interest in the matter of a family gathering, many letters were received from members of our widely scattered family, evincing a deep interest and giving encouragement to those who had undertaken the enterprise of having a meeting; all, without exception, favored the idea, and deeply regretted that the many weary miles of travel, sickness and age, with all that it implies, would prevent their attendance. Amid the multiplied duties and cares and some discouraging features of the work, these were indeed refreshing, and served to stimulate the project and inspire confidence that it would be a success. There was not time to read them all, and for obvious reasons it would be impracticable to print them at length, and so I have concluded to publish the names, and thus in a degree show how widely our kindred are scattered. The names of those who were at the meeting are, of course, omitted from this list, as they appear in the registration, and to repeat them would be an unnecessary repetition and needless expense :

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| — Oliver Harrison Lee, Chicago, Ill.     | Mrs. Ann Bushnell, Norwich, N. Y.        |
| — John Randolph Lee, Buffalo, N. Y.      | Mrs. Elizabeth A. Chittenden, Salisbury, |
| — Benjamin F. Lee, Oakland, Cal.         | Ct. Died February 21, 1885, the last     |
| — Benjamin F. Lee, North La Crosse, Wis. | descendant of Robert Walker Lee of       |
| — Benjamin F. Lee, Sandusky, Ohio.       | Salisbury.                               |
| — Benjamin F. Lee, Crown Point, N. Y.    | Thomas M. Wells, Negaunee, Mich.         |
| — Lyman Lee, Dovers Plains, N. Y.        | Miss Helen Thomson, London, Ont.         |
| — Ashbill Lee, Willsborough, “           | Mrs. Phebe Read, “                       |
| — Samuel C. Lee, Baltimore, Md.          | Mrs. Annie Daley, Belleville, “          |
| — John Wesley Lee, Poultney, Vt.         | Mrs. E. L. Wilcox, Wells, Vt.            |
| Rev. Albert Lee, Dixon, Ill.             | Mrs. Nellie E. Shaw, Northport, Me.      |
| — Major D. Bradley Lee, St. Louis, Mo.   | Mrs. George C. Darrow, Jamestown, Cal.   |
| Rev. Frank T. Lee, Salt Lake City, Utah. | Mrs. Hial H. Woodruff, Southington, Ct.  |
| Milford L. Lee, Lewis, N. Y.             | — Silas Wells, Salisbury, Ct.            |
| — Miss Caroline Lee, Fair Haven, Vt.     | Mrs. Rosamond Todd, Toronto, Ont.        |
| Graham Lee, Hamlet, Ill.                 | James M. Smith, Providence, R. I.        |
| — Capt. Luther C. Lee, Aurora, Ill.      | Mrs. Helena M. Snow, St. Louis, Mo.      |
| George R. Lee, “ “                       | Mrs. Lois B. Gorman, East Benton, Pa.    |
| Chauncey W. Lee, “ “                     | — Mrs. L. S. Platt, Detroit, Mich.       |
| — Samuel B. Lee, Sr., Duplex, Tenn.      | Mrs. Emeline F. Judd, Ashland, Wis.      |
| Miss Maria M. Lee, Pittsfield, Mass.     | Edward L. Strathey, Montreal, Can.       |
| Rev. Albert Bushnell, Geneseo, Ill.      | H. Gordon Strathey, “ “                  |
| Milo Lee Gay, Howell, Mich. Died in      | Mrs. L. L. Drake, Hydeville, Vt.         |
| March, 1884.                             | Mrs. Irene Duncklee, E. Middlebury, Vt.  |
| — N. Smith Lee, Oneida, N. Y.            | Mrs. Emile B. Carey, La Cygne, Kan.      |
| James T. Lee, 2700 State St., Chicago,   | Mrs. G. W. Kneeland, Warren, O.          |
| Ill.                                     | Prof. Irving P. Church, Ithaca, N. Y.    |



*D. B. Lee.*

ST. LOUIS, MO.





- ✓ Thomas Lee, Westmoreland, Hecla P.O., N. Y.
- Alexander F. Lee, Janesville, Wis.
- ✓ Charles H. Lee, " "
- George Carlton Lee, 39 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
- Jephtha Gaylord Lee, Mukwango, Wis.
- Mrs. Clarissa M. Lee, Middlebury, Ind.
- William H. Lee, Woodland, Mich.
- Mrs. John Lee, " "
- Miss Bernice Lee, " "
- Herbert M. Lee, Nashville, "
- David Charles Lee, St. Louis, Mo.
- ✓ Chauncey Lee, Lewis, N. Y.
- Samuel B. Lee, Jr., Duplex, Tenn.
- William J. Lee, Rochester, N. Y.
- ✓ Miss Carrie Maud Lee, Red Bank, N. J.
- Mrs. George F. Lee, Buffalo, N. Y.
- Herbert M. Lee, Kansas City, Mo.
- ✓ Edmund B. Lee, Denver, Col.
- ✓ Thomas Lee, Bloomfield, Pa.
- ✓ Mrs. Annis C. Lee, Dansville, N. Y.
- ✓ Eaton Jones Lee, Benton Harbor, Mich.
- Robert A. Lee, Louisville, Ky.
- Charles P. Lee, Grenola, Kan.
- ✓ Samuel Lee, Winetka, Ill.
- ✓ Henry V. B. Lee, Long Island City, N. Y.
- ✓ Dennis Lee, Sheffield, Mass.
- Seth S. Lee, " "
- ✓ Wallace H. Lee, Bristol, Conn.
- ✓ Mrs. Selina Lee Fenn, Collinsville, Conn.
- Lewis Hart Lee, Baltimore, Md.
- Charles C. Lee, Baltimore, Md.
- ✓ Ebenezer Lee, Frederickton, O.
- ✓ Elijah C. Lee, Fair Haven, Vt.
- Lebbeus Lee, San Jose, Cal.
- Mrs. Sarah Lee King, Champlin, Minn.
- Dr. Mary A. Smith, Boston, Mass.
- Mrs. Eliza L. Tichnor, Ithaca, N. Y.
- ✓ Mrs. Fanny Lee, widow of Milo, Fair Haven, Vt.
- Mrs. Alice E. Ellenwood, Dunham, O.
- Rev. Henry C. King, Cambridge, Mass.
- Samuel Lee Grosvenor, Marietta, O.
- Mrs. Emily Cassell, Carthage, Mo.
- ✓ Mrs. Julia B. Johnson, McMinville, Or.
- Mrs. F. W. Spaulding, Boston, Mass.
- ✓ Hon. Thomas J. Patterson, Rochester, N. Y.
- Mrs. J. B. Merwin, St. Louis, Mo.
- Mrs. George Butts, Manlius, N. Y.
- Major Charles J. Allen, U. S. Army, St. Paul, Minn.
- ✓ Pierpont Lee Smith, Howell, Mich.
- Mrs. Mary Lee Anderson, 94 Lincoln Ave., Chicago, Ill.
- ✓ Mrs. Abram Kilbourn, Pleasant Valley, Conn.
- Mrs. Lucy J. Parker, Janesville, Wis.
- Mrs. Jennie Lee Osgood, Iowa Falls, Ia.
- Mrs. Elvira Lee Strathey, London, Ont.
- ✓ Miss Louisa M. Strathey, " "
- J. P. Woodbury, Marshalltown, Ia.
- Mrs. Ruth E. Ellsworth, Willsborough, N. Y.
- Mrs. E. A. Candee, Wayland, Mich.
- Mrs. Fannie Lee Barnes, Sheffield, Mass.
- Mrs. Sophronia Brigham, Detroit, Mich.
- Mrs. Jane C. Dunnage, Clyde, N. Y.
- Mrs. F. P. Woodbury, Los Angeles, Cal.
- Mrs. Fayette Parsons, Adair, Ia.
- ✓ George Lee Wells, Chicago, Ill.
- Mrs. Lucy G. Bracken, Philipsport, Kan.
- Mrs. Caroline Lee Rich, Adrian, Mich.
- ✓ Mrs. Julia Lee Dorrance, Attica, N. Y.
- Mrs. J. A. Cuthbert, Kent, O.
- Mrs. Hattie Osborn, Hudson, N. Y.
- Mrs. Nancy Graham, Port Hope, Ont.
- Mrs. Sarah A. Forbes, Buffalo, N. Y.
- Mrs. William O. Brewster, Buffalo, N. Y.
- Mrs. Julia Lee Ireland, Seaforth, Ont.
- Mrs. Ellen Lee Osgood, Rutland, Vt.
- Mrs. Rhoda Lee Adams, Union Center, N. Y.
- Henry Bidgood, Westleyville, Ont.
- Mrs. Aurila Lee Van Valen, Shropshire, Wis.
- Mrs. E. M. Goodrich, Middletown, Ct.
- Mrs. Evelyn R. Carey, Buffalo, N. Y.
- Mrs. De Etta Hawkes, Madison, Wis.
- Miss Henrietta M. Eggleston, Madison, Wis.
- Mrs. Mary L. Snow, Barre, Vt.
- Mrs. A. W. Woldrige, Rochester, Minn.
- Mrs. Charles Lee Judd, Grenola, Kan.
- Elijah Lee St. John, Northampton, Mass.
- Mrs. Lucy A. Wooster, Union, N. Y.
- Horace Gaylord Cooper, Jacksonville, N. Y.
- Mrs. Mary Cooper, Jacksonville, N. Y.
- Mrs. Pardon Briggs, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- Mrs. Georganie F. Douglass, Cleveland, O.
- David Hawley, Collinsville, Ct.
- Mrs. L. T. B. Maloney, Detroit, Mich.
- Mrs. Margaret L. Snow, Port Kent, N. Y.
- ✓ Mrs. Chauncey S. Sage, Williamstown, N. Y.
- Charles E. Woodruff, New Britain, Ct.
- Roswell M. Andruss, Springfield, Mass.
- Mrs. Hannah L. Flagler, Blackwells Island, N. Y.
- Jesse Westcott, New Lisbon, Wis.
- Mrs. Mary G. Nickerson, Clove, N. Y.
- Elnathan S. Judd, Ashland, Wis.
- Mrs. W. N. Peck, Ansonia, Ct.
- Mrs. Julius B. Savage, Southington, Ct.
- Died March 23, 1885.
- Mrs. Fannie Lee Brown, Pullman, Ill.
- Rev. Albert G. Beebe, Huntington, Mass.
- Henry M. Smith, 22 Cortland St., N. Y.
- Rollin Lee Beecher, Winsted, Ct.
- Prof. George C. Duffee (Ripon College), Ripon, Wis.

Mrs. Abijah Fenn, Harwinton, Ct.	Charles H. Pond, Southington, Ct.
Thomas M. Robinson, Freedom, O.	Charles P. Hobart, " "
Mrs. Anson Robinson, " "	Miss Hattie L. Hampton, Franklin, N.J.
Mrs. Hugh McDowell, Owasco, N. Y.	Mrs. Fayette Wightman, Bristol, Ct.
Mrs. Charles S. Landers, New Britain, Ct.	Miss Martha Lee, Kent, Ct.
Mrs. E. E. Ellsworth, Greenville, Mich.	Mrs. Laura Lee Kenea, 86 years old, Berlin, Ct.
Mrs. Amanda Farrell, Duplex, Tenn.	Mrs. Isabel Lee Eggleston, 81 years old, Henderson, N. Y.
Mrs. Harriet Smith, Whitehall, Mich.	Mrs. Mabel Lee Kenea, 78 years old, Madison, Wis.
Mrs. Elizabeth Church, Newburg, N. Y.	
Mrs. Thos. O'Sullivan, Pittsfield, Mass.	
Miss Henrietta Lee, Louisville, Ky.	

The last three, with Mrs. Elizabeth Lee Eggleston, 88 years old, who was at the meeting, are daughters of David Lee of Barkhamsted. These sisters had fondly hoped to be well enough to be present, but age and distance compelled them to forego the long anticipated pleasure.

## RELICS.

### A LEE CABINET SUGGESTED.

In the circular which was sent out by the Secretary, giving notice of the time of the meeting, he suggested that it would add to the interest of the occasion if the friends who had keepsakes and mementoes of the French and Revolutionary Wars would bring to the meeting such articles as they could without inconvenience, feeling certain that there must be scattered among the different family branches many objects of such a nature. Many of our friends had such articles, but found it inconvenient to bring them, so that the collection was not as large as some anticipated. An old Bible was sent from Madison, Wis., by Mrs. Mabel H. Kenea, which was given to her grandmother, Isabel Sedgwick, by her father Jonathan Sedgwick, in 1756. It has in it the family record of Thomas Lee (the twin). There was also sent by his grandson Thomas Lee of Westmoreland, N. Y., a hand-made singing book bearing this inscription: "Thomas Lee; his Singing Book; Anno Domini 1756." He was a teacher of music, possessing much more than average musical ability, and this trait has been quite prominent in many of his posterity. There were also some old deeds of land bought by Dr. Ebenezer Lee in Farmington before the Revolutionary War, which were sent by David Charles Lee of St. Louis. Also a letter from David Lee,

son of Thomas Lee (the twin), while in service as a soldier, which was written from Hackensack. N. J., dated August 24th, 1780, and is in possession of his grandson, the Secretary. There was also shown the diploma which was given to Seth Lee, M. A., by Yale College in 1759, the whole being in Latin—(the Secretary supposes, for he knows nothing about it)—attested by a seal two or more inches in diameter, brought from Kansas by his grandson, Richard Henry Lee.

There were also other relics shown, but as they were taken away by the owners before the Secretary had time to get even a list, much less any description, of them, he is unable to give any information concerning them or to whom they belonged. He earnestly hopes that at the next gathering the necessary steps will be taken to organize a "Lee Cabinet," or something of such a nature, for the preservation of such relics and mementoes of the family history as the friends may be willing to donate for that purpose; for it should be remembered that every thing of that kind has an additional value to each succeeding generation. The Secretary asks our friends, one and all, to consider this matter, so that we can be prepared to act upon it at our next family gathering.

## WHAT THE PRESS SAID.

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It was but natural that our people should attract some attention in the goodly city in which all of us could claim something of an ancestral interest. Nearly all of the city papers, as well as many of the State papers, had kindly notices of our assembly, and of the good looks which we all know is such a prominent family characteristic. The *Hartford Courant* (first issued in 1764, and which has probably been read by some of the Lees since its first issue), gave a notice which is here extracted, with the exception of the registry which is published elsewhere :

“ It was a goodly company of fine-looking people, some well along in years, many in middle age, and quite a number of younger persons, with some children, that assembled in Allyn Hall at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning to observe the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of John Lee in Hartford. They were mostly Lees, by name, but a fair number represented other branches of the family. The gathering numbered, all told, nearly two hundred people, and were called to order by Mr. William Wallace Lee of Meriden. The Hon. Gad Henry Lee of Waterford, N. Y., was chosen temporary chairman, and Bernard Lee of Minneapolis, Minn., temporary secretary. A committee on permanent organization reported the following list of permanent officers :

[Here the *Courant* gives the list of officers already printed, and therefore omitted here.]

“ Mr. William Wallace Lee, on taking the chair, said if there was one predominant characteristic of the New England ancestry of the family it was a reverence for Almighty God, and it was fitting that these proceedings should be opened with an expression of gratitude to the God of our fathers. Prayer was offered by the Rev. C. Russell Lee of Thorald, Ontario, the audience rising and responding to the recitation of the Lord's prayer in closing. William Wallace Lee then made an address of welcome, well written, brief, and to the point. He asked pardon for a personal reference, but said that within thirty miles of Hartford he buried the whole line of his own ancestry back to John Lee of Farmington, with the single exception of one who died on the battle-field, and his grave alone of all is unknown. A hymn, written for the occasion by Myra Lee Howard





*Curtis M. Lee.*

CLEVELAND, OHIO.

of this city, was sung, followed by the reading of letters from absentees. A large number had been received and only a few were read. They were mainly in the same line, expressing regret at not being able to be present, but extending warm congratulations and well-wishes. Mr. Frederick R. Lee, living near Birmingham, England, gave a very interesting account of the Lee family in England and of its branch in Canada, springing from Dr. Ebenezer Lee, who, with his son, William Hooker Lee, left Farmington, because of his tory sympathies during the Revolutionary War. The latter opened the way for a more exhaustive tracing of the English ancestors of John Lee, and gave suggestions of valuable data. The writer expressed a hope that a revised edition of the Lee book might be issued.

“Following the reading of the letters, Mr. William Lee of Marysville, Ohio, read an interesting paper, in which he followed out the six generations of one branch of John Lees from the Farmington John, closing with John 6th, who died in Hartford County in 1864. The speaker said he was the only one living in the line he had followed, and was of the third son of John 6th. He left Connecticut for Ohio fifty-four years ago. A paper prepared by Mr. William H. Lee of New York, was listened to with much interest. It was upon ‘Our English Origin,’ and gave a valuable compilation of historical and personal memoranda. What was for many years a matter of tradition, documentary evidence now proves to be true—that John Lee came to this country from Colchester, England. Colonel Chester of London, an accomplished genealogist, has made searching investigations of the genealogical record of the family, and many important discoveries have been made. Mr. Lee’s paper covered very much matter of value and interest, and showed an exhaustive and painstaking effort. The paper was heartily applauded.

“Before taking a recess at noon Miss Sarah M. Lee of Norwich, author of the Lee Genealogy, was introduced, and the audience received her with marked favor.

“At the opening of the afternoon session, letters were read from the Rev. Samuel W. Lee of Bevington, Iowa, Thomas Lee of Westmoreland, New York, and others, and the names of those who had sent letters of regret were read. A committee was ordered raised to consider the practicability of making an excursion to the grave of John Lee in Farmington, and the following named gentlemen were appointed: James W. Lee, Cleveland; L. P. Lee, Jr., New Britain; Curtis M. Lee, Cleveland; Henry Lee, Illinois. Messrs. Thomas G. of Rochester, Francis of Clinton, Iowa, George H. of Bridgeport, and H. J. of St. Louis were appointed a committee to arrange for a group photograph of the gathering. In connection with these matters, the question of the continuance of the meeting was discussed, and it was finally voted to prolong the session through Wednesday.

“During the afternoon an ode, written by Edwin N. Andrews of Chicago and dedicated to the Lee family gathering, was distributed. The proceedings of the afternoon were of a miscellaneous character, and included an account by William Wallace Lee of the beginning

and progress of the work to bring about the reunion of the family representatives for this occasion, and this was accompanied by sketches of different branches of the family.

"An interesting paper was then read by Leonard Lee of Kenosha, Wis. Mr. Thomas W. Lee of St. John's, N. B., here introduced his nephew, Mr. G. Herbert Lee. This gentleman returned thanks for the cordial reception given to himself and his uncle, as representing a Canadian Lee family. He spoke of his great grandfather, Captain Joseph Lee, who was faithful to his king in the Revolutionary war and fled to New Brunswick at its close. In closing he referred to the close union now existing between England and America. Professor John S. Lee of Canton, N. Y., was then called to the platform, and spoke in an entertaining manner for about twenty minutes, making special reference to the qualifications and character of the family as worthy of commendation and personal pride. The speaking closed with extended remarks by the Rev. Burdette Hart of Fair Haven.

"Last evening the visitors attended a reception given by Mr. William H. Lee at his residence on Washington street. At this morning's session, which begins at 9 o'clock, the committee on the proposed excursion to Farmington will report.

"The second day's session of the Lee family at Allyn hall was well attended. During the two days about two hundred and fifty persons connected with the family were present at the meetings.

"At the close of the proceedings in the hall, a large company went to the capitol, and, taking a position on the north front, had a group photograph taken. In the afternoon about forty persons went to Farmington in Rustemeyer's large omnibus, and visited the old homestead grounds of John Lee, which are now the site of Miss Porter's famous school. The visit was greatly enjoyed.

"The whole reunion gathering has been of great pleasure to all the participants. The acquaintances formed will no doubt be long cherished through the memories of this happy family meeting. Aside from the delights of the gathering itself, the visitors expressed much satisfaction with their hospitable entertainment in Hartford, and were generous in their praises of the city and its people."



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## OBITUARY TRIBUTES.

In the remarks of the President, at the close of the meeting, he said that they would never meet again. for each succeeding year would call some one of our members from the scenes of earth, yet few of us could have been convinced that it would be so soon verified. Hardly had we separated, and ere some could have possibly reached their homes, we were startled by the news as published in the daily paper, that Gad Henry Lee, of Waterford, N. Y., had died at his boyhood home in Bristol, Conn., whither he had gone on a visit after the close of our meeting. He had taken a deep interest in our family matters, and by unanimous consent was selected as the temporary chairman. Being of portly form with a ruddy countenance, he seemed the impersonation of health and vigor, while his genial ways, with pleasant social nature, attracted all, and few of our number, to all human appearance, had a surer promise of years of usefulness. He was taken violently ill, and, despite of medical skill, died on August 12th, less than one week after our separation. During his residence in Waterford he had won a large place in the esteem and confidence of that community, having several times been elected president of the village; prominent among the Masonic fraternity, and identified with local interests in various ways, and a leading man among his political associates. His body was taken to Waterford for burial where many testimonials of sympathy and respect were offered. Shortly after his death Rev. A. L. Loveland, of Granby, Conn., sent to the Secretary the subjoined testimonial, which, under the the circumstances, has a peculiarly saddening fitness to the memory of one whom he soon followed to the silent land:

## DEATH OF GAD HENRY LEE.

[Contributed after Family Gathering by the late Rev. A. L. Loveland.]

“ Since the gathering of our kindred at the Capital the painful duty is imposed on us of giving place in these records of the sudden death of family relative Gad Henry Lee, of Waterford, N. Y. The subject of this notice was a lawyer in the tide of successful practice ; a man of sterling integrity and moral worth, honored and beloved at home and through the wide circle of business and social life ; he was struck down in the full vigor and strength of manhood at the age of 42, when there rested upon his shoulders so many responsibilities and while the popular applause encouraged him with the laudable ambition of a larger public service. When the project of calling together the members of our wide-spread family was conceived, he entered most cordially into the work and labored zealously to make the meeting both a pleasure and a success. Forward in providing against embarrassments, he entered upon the work of realizing funds to meet the expenses of the present assembly and the contingencies of the future, thereby placing the resources of the family treasury beyond all present want. The loved members of our kindred who shared the good fortune of meeting together at Hartford, will remember the manly form and cheerful presence that moved among them both in the public meeting and the private interviews, and while we drop the sympathetic tear of regret over his early and sad death, sorrowing that we shall greet him never more at our kindred gatherings in this pleasant land, we are penetrated with the reasonable and Christian hope of a no far distant and general greeting in that immortal meeting of the summer land.” A. L. L.

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## THE LATE REV. ALFRED L. LOVELAND.

Among those who had become connected with the Lees by marriage were found several who took a deep interest in matters pertaining to the family gathering ; few excelled in zeal the Rev. A. L. Loveland. He was ready at all times to render any service within his power and willingly entered into any measure which promised to give added interest to the occasion. At the request of the President he drafted the plan of the permanent organization which was adopted with no change of importance from the original draft as he reported it to the meeting. Those who were present will long remember the full rich tones of his melodious voice and the glowing tribute he paid to our dead soldier kinsman, Richard Henry Lee, of Granby. He had promised to furnish for publication a synopsis of same, but his sudden sickness and death left it never to be completed.

Knowing his special fitness for work of such a kind, the President selected him as one of the committee to revise and publish the pro-



*Gen. Henry Lee.*

WATERFORD, N. Y.



ceedings of the meeting; expecting that upon him would devolve the larger portion of the labor, for although limited in pecuniary means, he was richly endowed for such work. Some preliminary correspondence had been had in reference to gathering material and commencing upon it, when the startling news of his sudden death arrested the work for quite a time, as been elsewhere explained. He had simply written the above, when the pen of the writer was laid by forever and the voice that so charmed us all was hushed in the silence of the grave.

Among those present on the first day was Mary L. Hart, of Barkhamsted. None enjoyed the occasion more, but as she has an invalid mother to care for, she felt that duty to her must deprive her of the pleasure of attendance on the second. Mary L. Hart is a direct lineal descendant of Stephen Hart, whose daughter Mary was the wife of John Lee, the emigrant. She is also a descendant of Capt. Stephen Lee, whose daughter Martha married Major Nathaniel Hart, also a descendant of Capt. Jared Lee, whose daughter Lois married Asahel Lewis. At the request of the Secretary she prepared the subjoined tribute to the memory of her old pastor, guide, counselor and friend:

“DIED—In North Granby, Conn., September 22, 1884, the Rev. Alfred Lawrence Loveland, aged 59.

“The subject of this sketch was born at Glastonbury, Conn. After receiving a liberal education, he entered the ministry as a Universalist clergyman, and commenced preaching before reaching the age of twenty-one, at Granby.

“He preached at Granville, Mass., Norwich, Lyme, Goshen, Barkhamsted, and other places about Connecticut.

“While in Norwich he lost his health and returned to Granby, where, for thirty-five years, the greater part of his life, had been spent. He turned his attention to fruit raising and farming, at which he regained his health, and again occupied the pulpit of the Universalist Church in that place until his death.

“On the 11th of September, as was his usual custom, he attended the Grange gathering at Southwick, Mass, and while there partook of a shore dinner. After reaching home he was taken violently sick, and disease speedily did its work, laying low the form in its ripened and perfected years of manhood, and in the far-reaching influence and glorified consummation of a successful ministerial career.

“He was a man of rare attainments and fine literary ability. While performing manual labor, his great brain was working out some unsolved problem, trying to understand the mystery of life, and the glory of that unseen. From the open book of Nature he gained inspiration, and led his people into closer communion with Nature’s

God. He was a bright and shining light in Masonry, and active in whatever was for the good and interest of humanity.

“He married a lovely and amiable lady, Martha, eldest daughter of George Lee, of Granby, who was a deacon of the Universalist Church, and one of its firm supporters.

“At his death Mr Loveland left a widow and one son, he being but seventeen years of age. Two lovely daughters passed in at the ‘lifting of the veil’ a number of years ago.

“His funeral was attended at his own church, a large concourse of people testifying by their presence and tears of bereavement how great the loss to church and community. Memorial services were held at both the Congregational and Universalist Churches, at which citizens generally, without regard to sects or creeds, paid glowing and fitting tributes to the tender and devoted husband, the kind and indulgent father, the faithful pastor, the loyal friend and citizen.

“In this brief sketch it is impossible to give full justice to a character of such inflexible uprightness of purpose. It is unnecessary to raise a monument of chiseled marble to perpetuate his memory, for his name will be laid upon many a family altar—the heroic deeds, the kindly acts, the throbs of the heart given to the cause of truth and the good of humanity, will be cherished by many a loving and loyal heart, until this generation shall have passed away.”

M. L. H.

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# APPENDIX

CONTAINING INTERESTING MATTER

RELATING TO THE LEE FAMILY,

COLLECTED DURING AND AFTER THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF 1885, IN ODD HOURS, FROM THE

CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY,

AT HARTFORD

AND OTHER SOURCES; ALSO CONTRIBUTIONS CONCERNING  
VARIOUS BRANCHES OF THE FAMILY.

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WHILE NOT DIRECTLY BEARING ON THE FAMILY GATHERING OF 1884, THE PAGES WILL HELP TO EXPLAIN MANY REFERENCES, AS WELL AS PROVE INTERESTING FOR THE SCRAPS OF HISTORY, CULLED HERE AND THERE, CONCERNING THE LEES.





## APPENDIX.

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In the papers which were read at the gathering, mention was made of five different families of Lees in America, whose origin is clearly traced back prior to 1700, and a brief outline of each of these families, aside from the Farmington Lees, was given.

A very general impression prevails that all the Lees in this country are descended from some one of these families. Information that has been received since the matter of a gathering of the Farmington Lees was conceived, proves that this impression is erroneous.

One Samuel Lee came from England about 1710. and settled in Swansea, Mass. A few years later came his brothers, Thomas and Stephen; these all married in Swansea and reared families, whose descendants are now widely scattered. Among them is Charles Lee of Taunton, Mass.; some of the Providence (R. I.) Lees are of this family, as are also some of the Lees in Western New York.

There is a family of Lees that date back to an early day in our country's history in the vicinity of Norwalk, Conn. I have not been able to obtain a clear account of their origin, although I have corresponded quite at length with several who claim to be of that family. There is a tradition that I have heard, that the first of this family was Josiah Lee; also another tradition, that it was William Lee. I do not consider either of these well authenticated, and merely state them for what they are worth. This is an honored and honorable family. I have found several of its members in Central New York.

There is a numerous family of Lees who trace back to Westfield, Mass., or the immediate vicinity. Among this family the name of David is held in high esteem, and has been carefully kept for several generations. All I can learn of the early history is that David was the ancestor. Possible they may be of the lost family of our David, mentioned on page 116 of our Lee Book, but I think it very doubt-

ful. Col. Horace S. Lee, late of the 25th Mass. Volunteers, and later postmaster at Springfield, Mass., was of this family.

There is another family of Lees, who trace back to about 1697, in Southeastern Pennsylvania and Northern Maryland. From all I can learn no attempt has been made to preserve their history, and what is known of them is only fragmentary. They are numerous in Pennsylvania and scattered through the west, as I have learned from Thomas M. Lee of Cherry Valley, Illinois, who is a descendant.

A large number of Lees can trace back their line of ancestry to Middletown, Conn., but fail in their efforts to follow the ancestral line any farther.

Joseph Lee, of Egremont, Mass., William Wallace Lee who died in Guilford, Ct., August 1st, 1884, William Wilson Lee, of Thomaston, Conn., Samuel W. Lee, of Northampton, Mass., all trace back to Middletown, but can give no information concerning the early history of their families in this country. There is an old family of Lees in Guilford, Conn., which it was long supposed were a branch of the same Lees, but later information does not tend to confirm this impression. The same farm on which the original settler Edward Lee built his dwelling has been held in the family possession for six generations. Some of the descendants are in Rochester, N. Y., some are in Pennsylvania, in Kansas and elsewhere. Some of the Lees in Madison, Ct., have always been considered as a branch of the Lyme Lees, but this is an opinion which is open to question, to say the least.

Some time prior to the Revolutionary war (for he served as Captain in it, according to the family traditions,) William Lee came from Yorkshire, England, and settled in Connecticut. He removed (probably about the commencement of the present century) to Cayuga county, N. Y., where he died. Among his descendants is Rev. Charles F. Lee, now of Charlestown, Mass. There was another William Lee who came from the Isle of Wight, and settled in eastern Connecticut. He was also a soldier of the Revolution. Among his descendants was Edwin Lee, a prominent carriage manufacturer of New Haven, Conn., who died in 1882, another descendant is George William Lee, a leading druggist in Winsted, Conn.

Another branch of Lees is descended from James Lee, who came from Yorkshire, England, something more than one hundred years since, and settled on Long Island.

William Wilson Lee of Northampton, Mass., is a descendant of

this family, which does not seem to have been so prolific as some others of the name. Early in this century a Lee family came from Meath Co., Ireland, and settled in or near Oswego, New York, having among them the names John, Nicholas, Stephen, Worship, &c. Of this family is John E. Lee, now a leading citizen of Oswego. John M. Lee, a ship carpenter of Mystic, Conn., who was killed in 1882, by a fall from a vessel he was building, was of this family. In addition to those already mentioned, there are other families of a still later arrival in America, and they have comparatively little trouble in tracing out their ancestral line.

There are quite a large number of colored people who have the Lee name. This is probably accounted for in this way: Until within the past half century the negro in this country was regarded as more akin to the brute race than the human, and not entitled to a name of his own that he might transmit to his posterity. One hundred years ago, even here at the North, he was known simply as Cuff, Pomp, or Cæsar, as the fancy of his owner dictated. Naturally, if he took any name at all it would be that of his owner for the time being. When in process of time he became free the former master's name would cling to him, and thus be transmitted to his children. Large numbers of Lees of this kind are to be found in our Southern cities, decreasing in proportion and number as we approach the States that first abolished the institution of slavery.

It would be "a consummation devoutly to be wished," if sufficient interest could be aroused among the Lees to secure concerted action and awaken a feeling of enthusiasm and a determination to search out the history of all (especially the older families) bearing the name of Lee. I am not without hope that this can yet be done, but it ought to be commenced at once. The more we recede from the early days the more difficult it becomes. Whoever undertakes the work will find themselves constantly running into other families aside from their own; hence the necessity of concerted action, so that each one as they obtain information can exchange with others, thus proving mutual helps in this great work. Why cannot the work be commenced at once, and prosecuted with zeal and energy to its final consummation?

## THE COLONIAL DAYS.

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Since the preceding article was written some additional information has been gathered about the Lees of the early Colonial days, which, although somewhat fragmentary and disconnected, may be of interest; for, as has been stated, many family branches of our own have been lost sight of, and without doubt other Lees have a similar experience. During my attendance in Hartford, the past winter, as a member of the Legislature, I have used my spare hours in searching among the old records and documents contained in the State Library, and also among town, family and county histories, for additional information concerning the Lees. The many letters which I have received from parties bearing the Lee name since our meeting in August, 1884, making inquiries and soliciting information, show conclusively that there is a deep and widespread desire for all the information that can be had; and so this additional matter is appended to our formal proceedings with the hope that it will aid others in their researches, and possibly to trace family connections in directions where now all clue seems to be lost.

In any undertaking of this kind, unless the searcher is endowed with an unusual amount of perseverance he will be apt to have his ardor cooled somewhat as he encounters one obstacle after another, one of the chief of which is the utter inability to obtain responses of any kind, from some parties, to civil letters of enquiry, even when stamps are enclosed to pay all costs. Another obstacle is the difficulty of obtaining the correct dates of births, marriages, deaths, etc., and the fact that in many family records, often made at a late date in its history, no mention is made of where the parties lived and died, and also the great similarity of Christian names in these old families, often repeated and duplicated over and over again. All these tend to bewilder and confuse the enquirer after facts, which are necessary before he can weave them into a continuous story.

## FAMILY HISTORY ONLY TRADITION.

It should be borne in mind that much of what we call family history is only tradition, and is liable at any time to be changed by additional information that may be gathered as new researches are made among musty records and documents yellowed with age.

Probably no one has taken more pains in the line of genealogical research than the author of *Savage's Genealogical Dictionary*, yet this is said by some to be unreliable in many respects, but it is doubtful if in the wide field of New England family history there is any better authority. In that work he makes mention of Abraham Lee of Dover, New Hampshire, as killed by the Indians in 1689; of Henry Lee of Manchester, N. H., brother of Thomas of Ipswich, removed to Boston in 1656; Joseph Lee, Manchester, N. H., in 1684; Joshua Lee of Boston, in 1685. Robert Lee (probably of London) was in the Plymouth Colony in 1635; Samuel Lee was in Malden, Mass., in 1671.

In our Lee book mention is made of Walter Lee of Westfield, Mass. Savage says that he at one time lived at Windsor, Conn., at one time at Northampton, and also that Stephen Lee, son of Walter, moved to Lebanon, Conn., had sons Thomas and Samuel. (One of the first settlers of Litchfield, Conn., was Thomas Lee of Lebanon.)

In our Lee Book (page 90) it states that Nathaniel Lee, who married Abigail Warren, and settled in Westfield, Mass., was a son of Dr. Ebenezer Lee.

*Savage's Dictionary* says that he was a son of Walter Lee, and this statement is entitled to some consideration, from the fact that in Seth Lee's record of the Farmington Lees he makes no mention of any son of Dr. Ebenezer Lee named Nathaniel.

In a small book in the State Library, which is only a brief outline history of Lebanon, mention is made of Stephen Lee and his children—Elizabeth, Stephen, Abigail, Ann, Asahael, Rachel, Mary. Children of Stephen Lee, Jr.—Deborah, Elizabeth, Lois, William, Nathan, Ezra, Ann, Stephen. Children of Asahael—Desire, John. Children of Samuel—Israel, Samuel. Children of Israel—Israel, Solomon, Jerusha, Meheitable, Dorothy, Dan, Sarah. I have not

given the dates of birth and death, because they involve too much detail. They range all the way between 1700 and 1761.

In *Mrs. Larned's History of Windham County* she mentions that Samuel Lee settled in North Killingly (now Thompson) about 1712, but gives no information as to where he came from. In Plainfield (same county) Benjamin Lee's name appears often. He was probably a man of some note, was Captain in the expedition against Louisburg, but I have been unable to trace his origin. Also Isaac Lee, of the same town, who was one of the subscribers for the purchase of the Westmoreland District (Wyoming Valley, Pa.); and I also find the name of Simeon Lee, who was granted a pension for injuries in the French war. Joseph Lee was treasurer of the town of Thompson in 1785. Whether these Lees are a branch of these mentioned in Lebanon has not yet been ascertained.

In the preceding article mention was made of the Lee family in Guilford. In *Savage's Dictionary* he says the name was Lees, and that Edward, who settled in Guilford in 1685, was a son of Hugh Lees, of the Saybrook Colony, and that another one, William, settled in Fairfield; and this statement is somewhat confirmed by the fact that in the colonial records is a petition to the Colonial Assembly from the people of Fairfield for permission to purchase land of the Indians 14 miles to the northward, bearing date 1679, and among the signers is William Lees, in his own handwriting. Probably during these years the last letter has been dropped by common consent. Although I have no positive proof, yet it is probable that the Lees of Reading, Ridgefield and other towns in Fairfield County are descended from this original stock.

In the history of the towns of Cornwall and New Milford I find the names of Stephen Lee prominent, but find no clue by which it can be determined to what families they belong. So far as I can learn, there are no people living in these towns now bearing the Lee name.

*Boyd's Annals of Winchester* says that Deacon John Lee bought a farm on South street, Winsted, in 1791, occupied it until 1799, when he sold it and disappeared from the town. We have no farther knowledge of him, nor have we even a hint as to what family of Lees he belonged, or where he came from to Winsted.

In the *History of Long Island*, it is stated that William Lee of Nottinghamshire came to America in 1675, and settled on Long Island, had sons: Thomas (died without issue), Joseph, who had sons, Joseph, Thomas, Richard, who entered the French military service in Canada, and died single. Joseph, Jr., had sons: Joseph

of Yorktown, N. Y., died aged 77; had sons, William died at 50, Joseph at 50, Hon. Elijah at 78, Enos at 70.

One John Lee removed from Long Island to Yorktown, Westchester county, N. Y., in 1750; children: Thomas, John went to New Jersey, Henry died at 90, and Robert of Yorktown died at 81. There was also Thomas Lee of Woodbridge, Cortlandmanor, N. Y.; had sons: David, died at 90; Peter of Ohio, at 80; Paul, at 70; Israel of Orange county, at 80; Philip, at 74; William of New Jersey, at 80; Thomas.

The above is copied from the history of Westchester county, N. Y. It is very doubtful if they are in any manner connected with the New England Lees.

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## THE LEES IN THE WARS.

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I have devoted much time and taken considerable pains to obtain, so far as possible, a list of Connecticut soldiers bearing the Lee name, who served in the French, Revolutionary and Indian wars, and in 1812, but with very unsatisfactory results, thus far. I cannot learn that any muster rolls of soldiers in the French war are in existence, and so must rely upon tradition largely, though I do sometimes find the names of some officers mentioned. Where the family tradition that they served as soldiers is confirmed by finding the name in the old records, there can be no doubt about it; while, if the name is not found, it is no proof that he did not serve, because so many of the records are missing, and the files are so broken that they are absolutely unreliable for a complete history.

The same rule applies in the case of the Revolutionary war and in 1812. I see no reason to doubt the accuracy of the list of soldiers of the French war, as given in the historical address. Concerning the Revolutionary war, some additional information has been gained, although I am satisfied that it is very incomplete. When the children and grandchildren have the tradition of service confirmed by an old gun, pistol or sabre among the family heir-looms, with details as to where the service was rendered, in what actions the sire was engaged, it seems that it ought to be accepted as evidence of service as a soldier.

Shortly after the commencement of the Revolutionary war, the colonial assembly voted to raise ten regiments for the service, and

these regiments became known as the Connecticut line of the Continental army. The terms of enlistment varied all the way from six months to three years, so that while the organization of these regiments remained intact during the war the membership was constantly changing, and it is impossible to obtain a full list of all who served in these regiments without examining every muster roll during the whole seven years of service; but this cannot be done, because so many of them have been broken and lost.

Another thing is to be borne in mind, that the colony had a militia force aside from the regular Connecticut line, in which all able-bodied citizens from 16 to 60 were enrolled, and from this force levies were drawn for longer or shorter terms, as dangers threatened, or the situation seemed to demand from time to time, and these are usually called in the old records "short levies." This was the case at the time of the "Lexington alarm," the burning of Norwalk, Fairfield, Danbury and other places near the coast.

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### INCOMPLETE RECORDS.

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No town in Connecticut, so far as I can learn, has a full list of their soldiers, although many of the old towns would be very glad to obtain such a list. The Town Clerk of Middletown tells me that it is a fact unquestioned that more than 200 men served from that town, but they have a list of only about 40. Probably nearly all the old towns in Connecticut are similarly situated.

The United States Government did not commence paying pensions to all the survivors of that struggle until 1832, nearly 50 years after its close, although it had paid pensions to those that were disabled or infirm. After such a lapse of time probably not more than one-fourth were living, so that, though the pension roll after that date would be good evidence of those who were living, it would furnish no information about those who had died prior to that time.

As an instance of the difficulties in gathering information on this point, I searched probably some 18 or 20 hours before finding my grandfather's name, but could not find his brother's name at all, although he was one of a company raised in Farmington, to join the northern army that was surrounding Burgoyne, and arrived there the day after the surrender. He was also at Horse Neck, under General Putnam. I mention these facts so that those who do not find their ancestors' names in the appended list of soldiers may know that it is



from no lack of painstaking effort on my part, but because the name is not among our old records.

In many cases, there is no doubt that the same person enlisted for more than one term of service, as no enlistment was for more than three years; yet, in several cases, two or more persons bearing the same name are found to be in the service at the same time. Only a few of the muster rolls show to what town the party in service belongs, but sometimes one may infer from other names associated with them in the same company. Using the best guides I have, of course, I am liable to be mistaken as to locality, but give the fullest information I can.

After the battle of Lexington, there was a call for volunteers for the relief of Boston, which was promptly responded to in large numbers from Connecticut. Among the number were the following bearing the Lee name:

[Farmington Lees are indicated by a \*.]

Daniel Lee, from Willington.  
Elijah Lee, East Windsor.  
\*Oliver Lee, Windsor.  
Sergeant Simeon Lee, Killingly.  
Joel Lee, Killingly.  
Solomon Lee, Killingly.  
Nathaniel Lee, Guilford.

James Lee, Lebanon.  
Sergeant Eliel Lee, Lyme.  
Levi Lee, Guilford.  
Squier Lee, Lebanon.  
\*Thomas Lee, Farmington, (I think).  
\*Timothy Lee, Farmington, now South-  
ington.

Very likely there are others that should be added to the above, but the list embraces all of whom I have positive evidence.

I find, in addition, the following named as being in the service in 1775:

John Lee, North Guilford.  
Martin Lee, Lyme.  
Samuel Lee, Middletown.  
Samuel W. Lee, Middletown.  
Samuel Lee, Guilford.  
\*William Lee, Farmington, now Bristol.  
Lemuel Lee, Lyme.  
Seth Lee, 3 Co. 7 Reg., Stamford.  
Henry Lee, 2 Co. 3 Reg., town unknown.  
Nathan Lee, 6 Co. 5 Reg., Lebanon.  
Joseph Lee, I think New London.  
Dan. Lee, probably Lebanon.  
Levi Lee, 1 Co. 6 Reg., probably New  
London.  
Abner Lee, Woodbury.  
Samuel Lee, "  
William Lee, Col. Waterbury's Reg.

Lieut. Elisha Lee, Norwich.  
Daniel Lee, 9 Co. 8 Reg.  
\*Capt. Noah Lee, Salisbury.  
\*Matthew Lee, Farmington.  
\*Timothy Lee, 6 Co. 2 Reg., town un-  
known.  
Daniel Lee, Reg. and town unknown.  
\*James Lee, 8 Co. 3 Reg., Farmington,  
now Bristol.  
\*Doctor Samuel Lee was in service in  
1775, as surgeon in Gen. Putnam's  
Regiment.  
\*Seth Lee was in hospital service in Gen.  
Putnam's Regiment.  
\*In 1776 I find as in service Serg. Elias  
Lee, seems to be from Salisbury,  
Col. Watt's Regiment.

The few lists that I found of the year 1776 have very few additional names. In an old muster roll of Col. Comfort Sage's regiment (without date) I find the names in Captain Jonathan Park's company of Daniel Lee and Jedediah Lee; in Capt. Edward Eels'

company, same regiment, Lemuel Lee, Samuel Lee, No. 73 (so marked), and William Lee. East Haddam.

In another muster roll of the same regiment I find the name of Zedekiah Lee. which I am inclined to think is an error in copying the name Jedediah.

In 1777 Mathew Lee was in Col. Deming's regiment at East Chester. N. Y.

Rev. Andrew Lee of Lyme was in the service as chaplain, as appears from an old pay roll (regiment unknown).

From the year '77 onward, the muster rolls are so disconnected and broken that it is very difficult, if not impossible, to place the names of those in service in orderly sequence, so I will give only the names that appear, and the year, (when possible), merely adding that most of the names that have already been given appear more or less at intervals as being in the service, as shown by the pay rolls :

Capt. Elisha Lee, Lyme, 1778.	Stephen Lee, Norwich, '80.
Lieut. Ezra Lee, Lyme.	Zadok Lee, Lebanon.
Sergeant Abner Lee, Lyme.	James W. Lee, Middletown.
*Ebenezer Lee, Jr., Farmington, '77.	Seth Lee, Ridgefield, '79.
William Lee, corporal, Col. Belden's	Thomas Lee, Derby, '80.
Reg., Ridgefield, '80.	John Lee, Col. Butler's Reg.
*William Lee, fifer, Col. Wylley's Reg. '78.	William Lee, Arnold's Detachment
Horton Lee, Col. Zebulon Butler's	Northern Army.
Reg., '79.	Samuel Lee, Chatham, '79.
*David Lee, Col. Zebulon Butler's Reg.,	Lieut. Elijah Lee, Peekskill, '81.
Farmington, '80.	Jonathan Lee, Guilford, '81.

## A CONNECTICUT PRIVATEER.

The colony of Connecticut built for service as a privateer, or, perhaps, more properly, a ship of war, calling it the "Oliver Cromwell," of which Dr. Samuel Lee of Goshen (afterwards of Windham) was surgeon-in-chief for a long time. I also find that Lydia Lee, widow of John, of Farmington, (ancestor of the Bristol Lees,) was paid in 1779, 6£ 9s. for hospital service. I do not believe the above is a complete list of all the Lees who served in the army of the Revolution, for the reasons that have been stated, and see no reason to withdraw any name from the list of soldiers as mentioned in the historical address.

Probably other families furnished in like proportion, and when we reflect that the total population of Connecticut at its first census, in 1790, was only 238,115, we can have some idea of the sacrifice which was made in that struggle.

## WHERE THE RECORDS ARE.

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I have been told that after the destruction of the public buildings in Washington by the British forces in 1814 (for many valuable records and documents were then burned), the United States government called upon the state governments to loan them such records as were necessary to replace those that were destroyed. The request—a reasonable one—was granted by Connecticut, as well as by other states, but without taking the precaution to first copy them, and the United States government has never returned them, although it has often been asked to do so; and so it is that parties who are engaged in tracing out family histories find it impossible to obtain access to that to which, by every principle of right, they are entitled. Efforts are now being made to have them returned, with what success time will determine.

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## THE PENSION LIST.

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Mention has already been made of the time when the United States government began to pension its soldiers. I find that in 1830:

Mathew Lee, age 70, William H. Lee, age 73, were pensioned in Hartford county, Connecticut.

Sergeant Dan Lee, Lieutenant Ezra Lee, Sergeant Levi Lee, Rev. Andrew Lee, chaplain, Sergeant William Lee, all of New London county.

William Lee, Jonathan Lee and Eber Lee in New Haven county.

\*David Lee, Litchfield county.

\*Captain Noah Lee, Vermont.

Jonathan Lee, Madison county, New York.

William H. Lee, Albany county, New York.

\*Ebenezer Lee, Tompkins county, New York.

Samuel Lee, Chenango county, New York.

The pension roll shows that all the above served in the Connecticut line.

In addition the roll shows as pensioned for service in Connecticut militia:

David Lee, Addison county, Vermont.

Israel Lee, Columbia county, New York.

Elisha Lee, fifer, Oneida county, New York.

It also shows that Daniel Lee died in the United States service (11th Regt., Infantry), September 17, 1814, and his heirs were Daniel, William and Sally Lee, (he is mentioned in the address);

also that David M. Lee of Bennington county, Vermont, died in the United States service August 14, 1814, and his heirs are Mary and Ebenezer Lee. These last two are credited to Vermont.

The above embraces all the names I have been able to obtain of those bearing the Lee name who served as Connecticut soldiers of the Revolution. Possibly there are some repetitions, but not many, and, making all due allowance, it shows that more than sixty of the Lee name were soldiers from Connecticut, of which number the Farmington Lees, who are indicated by a \*, furnished their fair proportion.

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### THE WAR OF 1812.

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The war of 1812-14 was not felt so seriously in Connecticut, and comparatively few volunteers were raised, and those only for short terms of service. On several occasions, the local militia were called out for a few days or weeks. Sometimes drafts were made for what was known as detached service. In searching for the record of those who were in the service, I encountered the same trouble as in other cases. The muster roll of some companies are entirely wanting. I am not able to locate the parties in many cases, for the rolls do not show what town the parties are from. I give the best information I have :

Jonathan Lee, Captain Wm. Stackmen's Company, 1813.

John Lee, Captain Billing's Company, 1813.

William Lee, Lieutenant Russell Rose's, Cavalry, 1813.

Jonathan Lee, Captain Thomas Badet's, 1813.

Elijah Lee, Captain Ezra Adams' Company, 1813

\*Cyprian Lee, Captain Ezekiel Andrus' Company, 1813.

\*John Lee, Jr.

[The two last named were brothers, and sons of John Lee of Berlin.]

\*Jeptha Lee, 1813.

\*Henry Lee, 1813.

[These were brothers, sons of John of Burlington, and died shortly after their return from service, at New London.]

\*William Lee, Jr., Bristol, 1814.

James Lee, Captain Amos Fowler's Company, 1814.

Elon Lee, Captain Amos Fowler's Company, 1814.

Martin Lee, aide-de-camp to General Jirah Isham, 1814.

Wareham Lee, Captain Nathan Johnson, 1814.

## THE LATE REBELLION.

I have made no attempt to obtain a list of our kindred who served in the war of the Rebellion, for three reasons: First, I have not had sufficient time, and it would delay this book too long. Second, our kindred are so widely scattered that it can only be done by the co-operation of interested parties in different states. Third, all the states, so far as I can learn, have carefully preserved their muster rolls and other documents, so that a few years hence it can be done just as thoroughly as now; while in the other cases it seemed necessary to do it now, if it was ever to be done.

When our next Lee Book is issued, I hope it will contain, properly arranged, as full a list as it is possible to obtain of all our kindred who have served as the nation's soldiers, no matter what their rank or station.

## LEE SOLDIERS OF NEW JERSEY.

As a matter of interest, possibly to those bearing the Lee name, I insert here the list of Lee soldiers from the colony of New Jersey, during the war of the Revolution, which I copied from the *History of New Jersey* in that war, now in our State Library:

Abel Lee, Cape May County.  
Charles Lee, Hunterdon County.  
Daniel Lee, Somerset County.  
David Lee, Gloucester County.  
Ebenezer Lee, Bergen County.  
Ephraim Lee.  
Israel Lee, Morris County.  
John Lee, Essex County.  
John Lee, Hunterdon County.  
John Lee, Monmouth County.  
Joseph Lee, Gloucester County.  
Joseph Lee, Essex County.

Moses Lee.  
Paul Lee, Morris County.  
Philip Lee, Morris County.  
Richard Lee.  
Samuel Lee, Somerset County.  
Thomas Lee, Somerset County.  
Walter Lee, Gloucester County.  
William Lee, Morris County.  
William Lee, Essex County.  
Giles Lee, 1st Lieutenant.  
Paul Lee, Lieutenant.

Although Lee is a common name in New Jersey, it will be seen that the list does not number near one-half of those bearing the name who served from Connecticut.

## THE MIDDLETOWN, CT., LEES.

In the first circular that was sent out, it was stated that it was supposed that some of the Middletown Lees were of a branch of our family. I made a careful search, hoping to confirm this opinion, but it is the old story of broken files and imperfect, meagre records.

Such information as I have gathered is appended here, partly in

response to many letters received, but with the hope that it will aid others who are in search of their kin, more or less remote. I find in those records some account of what seem to be two Lemuel Lees.

Lemuel Lee of Guilford and Mary West of Middletown married June 5, 1721.

Children—Anne, born March 12, 1722.

Mary, born October 8, 1724.

Mindwell, born May 13, 1726.

Lemuel Lee, born May 11, 1729.

Abijah, born April 8, 1733.

Levi, born July 23, 1739.

Of these all but Mary and Abijah died either young or without issue.

Abijah Lee and Abia Smith married April 12, 1752.

Children—Anne, born January 13, 1753.

Hannah, born November 12, 1754.

Samuel, born August 30, 1756.

Abner, born February 20, 1759.

Mary, born December 17, 1760.

William Henry, born October 22, 1762.

Abijah, born August 20, 1764.

Lucretia, born June 4, 1766.

Lemuel Lee and Thankful Rich married in Middletown November 2, 1732.

No record of any children.

Samuel Lee and Rhoda Bliss married March 28, 1751.

Children—Margaret, born November 16, 1751.

Samuel, born July 26, 1753 ; died same year.

Marcilla, born July 28, 1755.

Bliss Lee and Martha Barnes married March 10, 1796.

Children—Eliza, born December 3, 1796.

Daniel Wilson, born July 22, 1798.

William Bacon, born June 28, 1800.

Mary, born July 19, 1802.

Martha, wife of Bliss Lee, died August 12, 1806.

William Lee of Lyme married Mary Jacobs of Mansfield ; date not known.

Children—Mary, born May 27, 1770.

Lucy, born March 17, 1772.

William, born November 24, 1773.

Robert Lee's family, date of marriage and to whom, unknown.

Children—Elizabeth, born March 19, 1745.

Samuel, born April 16, 1747 ; died young.

Joyce.

George, born April 4, 1752.

Samuel Waters, born November 3, 1756.

Mary, wife of Robert Lee, died February 11, 1763.

Robert Lee and Hannah Cornwell married June 20, 1763.

The record of Dr. Isaac Lee's second marriage and the children, as found in the Lee Book, is to be found there, which, with the above, is all that I have been able to find about the Middletown Lees, prior to the present century.

In the State Library, I found in list of those whose taxes had been abated (more properly remitted) by the authorities of Middletown the name Josiah Lee; reason given, "having no list and reported absent;" but there was nothing which gave further clue as to where he was.

There are some marriages recorded within the present century, but, with the single exception of my father's marriage, there is nothing in any of the records to show that any of the parties are in any manner connected with the Farmington Lees.

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## LAW-MAKERS.

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In the historical address it was stated that the posterity of John Lee had often been found in our legislatures, etc. During my search among the old records I often found the name of Lee among the members of the colonial and state legislatures, and feeling almost certain that at least some would like to read the names of those who had been selected by their fellow-citizens for such positions, I finally concluded to copy the names, so far as I could find them, and give them a place in the book, with the years in which they served. Those known to be of the Farmington Lees are marked with a \*.

Thomas Lee, Lyme, 1685, 1713, '14, '15, '16.

John Lee, Lyme, 1709, '36, '38, '43, '44, '45.

Stephen Lee, Lyme, 1736, '39, '41, '42, '43.

Joseph Lee, Lyme, 1739, '40.

\*Hezekiah Lee, Farmington, 1742, '44, '45, '46, '47, '49.

Stephen Lee, New London, 1750, '51, '52, '53, '54, '55, '56.

Daniel Lee, Kent, 1758, '59, '60.

\*Jared Lee, Farmington, 1754, '60, '61.

\*Col. Isaac Lee, Jr., Farmington, 1761, '62, '64, '67, '68, '69, '70, '71, '72, '73, '74, '75, '76, '77, '80; was from Berlin in 1786, in '88 a member of convention which ratified the Constitution of the United States, voted yes; again member from Berlin in 1791.

William Lee, Ridgefield, 1766, '67, '68, '69, '71, '72.

Samuel Lee, Jr., Guilford, 1779, '84, '85, '86, '92, '99, 1800.

\*Samuel Lee, Salisbury, 1788, '91, '92, '95, '96, '97, 1800, '01, '06, '07, '09.

Rev. Andrew Lee, Lisbon, member of convention adopting the United States Constitution, 1788, voted yes.

Lemuel Lee, Lyme, 1791, '92, '97.

\*Orrin Lee, Berlin, 1805; from Granby, 1809, '11, '14, '17, '19.

James Lee, New Hartford, 1812.

\*Thomas Lee, New Hartford, 1813, '16.

\*Thomas Lee, Berlin, 1815, '19, '24.

Ira Lee, Chatham, 1821, '22, '23.

- Aaron Lee, Ridgefield, 1821, '22, '23, '29, '30, '35, '36.  
 Frederick Lee, Madison, 1830.  
 \*Lorenzo P. Lee, Berlin, 1836.  
 William Lee, Ridgefield, 1841, '42, '60.  
 Milo Lee, Reading, 1851, '56.  
 \*John Lee, Berlin, 1852.  
 Gurdon B. Lee, Reading, 1855.  
 \*Philip Lee, New Britain, 1856, '57, '60.  
 \*Samuel Lee, senator 13th district, residence Windham, 1855.  
 Edward M. Lee, Guilford, 1866, '67.  
 Horatio N. Lee, Colchester, 1868.  
 Thomas R. Lees, Westport, 1870.  
 Nathaniel S. Lee, Old Lyme, 1871.  
 Edward M. Lees, Westport, 1873.  
 Charles Lee, Coventry, 1875.  
 Aaron W. Lee, Ridgefield, 1877, '80.  
 \*Charles Lee, Kent, 1882.  
 \*Wm. Wallace Lee, Meriden, 1885.

NOTE.—The two Lees mentioned above as from Westport are not descendants of William Lees of Fairfield, but are of an English family that came during this present century.

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## THE LOYALISTS.

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Some thirty years or so since Lorenzo Sabine published a history of the "Loyalists of the Revolution," or Tories, as our sires used to call them; in which he gives brief accounts of such as figured more prominently. But probably it is not full and complete. In it, although several Lees are named, Dr. Ebenezer Lee is not mentioned. Many families were rent asunder by the ferocity of the conflict, and in many cases brothers were arrayed against each other on the battle field. We are now far removed from the passions of those times, and see or hear very little of them. But reading the old records with the accounts of "arrests for disaffection toward the American cause," the trials, punishments, confiscation of estates, etc., shows us that the feeling of bitterness toward them far surpassed that manifested on the part of the Union men of the nation towards the sympathizers with the South during the recent war. It is doubtful if in all human history such leniency was ever before manifested by the victorious party. After the close of the Revolutionary war, large numbers left the states, some going to England, some to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Niagara, etc., and to-day many people of prominence in the various Canadian provinces can trace their ancestry to the loyalists of the Revolution.

In the records of New Jersey during the Revolution is an account



of the arrest by Col. Abraham Ten Eyck of Joseph Lee of Hunterden county for "disaffaction," June 26th, 1776. Col. Isaac North was ordered to take charge of him with others; was tried July 31st; fined 100£, and ordered committed to jail until it was paid. Afterwards he went to New Brunswick, and became a prominent citizen there, and, unless I am mistaken, is the ancestor of the Lees who came from there to our meeting in August last. I do not find any evidence that they are connected in any degree with the Lees of Connecticut.

Sabine also makes mention of John Lee of Concord, Mass., who was captain of a company of loyalists in New York in 1777; was subsequently in a privateer with Nathaniel Gardiner, and in 1780 was in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

John Lee of Marblehead, Mass., was a signer of a loyal address to Governor Hutchinson in 1774.

Henry Lee of Boston was a protester against the Whigs in the same year.

George Lee of New Jersey was an ensign in a company of New Jersey loyalist volunteers.

Richard Lee of Maryland went to England, was in London in 1779.

Nehemiah Lee (home not known) died in St. John's, New Brunswick, in 1804.

Enos, John, William, Nathaniel and Silas Lee, all of Fairfield county, Connecticut, were members of the "Reading Association," an organization said to be "opposed to the cause of American liberty."

The above extract is not intended to recall or awaken in any degree any of the feelings of bitterness that have now happily nearly all been obliterated, but as information concerning families, the different branches of which have lost all trace of each other for nearly or quite a century. Some twenty years since I became acquainted with quite a number of citizens of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, who informed me that almost without exception they were descendants of the loyalists of the Revolution, and named the different localities in Connecticut from which their ancestors emigrated. Some of them were men of prominence in the temperance reform, and active workers in various ways for the good of their fellow men. Among the number was the, at that time, lieutenant governor of New Brunswick. Perhaps it may have been a fancy of mine, but I thought that there was manifested on the part of most of them a feeling of pride that they were of Connecticut origin.

## ADDITIONAL NOTES.

In the historical address it was stated that of the posterity of the first David we have lost all trace, except those of Rev. Jonathan of Salisbury. In a copy of a letter dated January 13, 1834, by Rev. Chauncey Lee, (son of Rev. Jonathan,) to his youngest son, Oliver H. Lee, now of Chicago, he says that David Lee, brother of Rev. Jonathan, died in Vermont. Our Lee Book says he lived at one time in Becket, Mass., but after 1777 all trace is lost, although there were two sons (David and Elisha) and five daughters. Very possible that the David Lee who is mentioned as having died in the United States service, in 1814, was of that family.

On page 114 of the Lee Book appears the names of Jedediah Lee's children: the sons are Elias, Josiah, Jedediah, Oliver, Zebulon and Simon.

I find in the Colonial Records for 1764 that Elias Lee, with twenty-five others, who were residents of Stafford, Willington and Tolland, petitioned the General Assembly to be released from paying taxes to the Established Church, as they were Baptists, which petition was granted. The same year he was appointed as administrator on the estate of Wm. Johnson of Willington. His name appears among the list of soldiers, and is in one place located in Salisbury; whether it is the same individual we have as yet no means of knowing. When the war began, Elias Lee was 52 years old, and, though past what we now call military age, was a military subject under the then existing laws. I think there can be no doubt that the Jedediah Lee mentioned as a soldier was of this family. Among this family in the Lee Book appears the name "Olivia," born 1738. The name should be "Oliver." I am strongly of the opinion, but have no positive proof, that is the Oliver mentioned from Windsor, as he would be just about 37 years old.

In *Stiles' History of Windsor*, I find that Oliver Lee's children are:

Abigail, born February 23, 1772.

Josiah, born December 7, 1772.

Lemuel, born July 23, 1774.

Anna Sarah, born May 30, 1777.

Oliver, born April 15, 1778.

The name of Lee is extinct in Windsor, and thus far I have been unable to obtain any trace of this family.

Elijah Lee, mentioned as a soldier from Windsor, settled in that part of Middletown known as Middlefield, and died there, where some of his posterity are living.

One Thomas Lee is credited to Derby. He was probably only a temporary resident. The *History of Derby* makes no mention of any Lees; nor did I ever hear in a residence of some eight years in that town of any Lee family, except my brother's and my own.

My oldest brother's name is on the soldiers' monument in that town; was killed in battle August 16, 1864, and was the only soldier from that town bearing the Lee name in the last war.

Seth Lee, who is credited to Stamford, must have been only a sojourner; for the very complete history of that town mentions him only as a soldier, nor is the Lee name mentioned anywhere else.

I strongly suspect that the Lee soldiers from Woodbury are the sons of Abijah of Middletown, for I can find no mention of any other Lees in the *History of Woodbury*.

The sons of Dr. Ebenezer Lee, as found in the memorandum of Seth Lee, M. A., are Moses, Riverius, Ebenezer, Wm. Hooker and Simeon. Presuming that they left posterity, we have knowledge only of the descendants of Ebenezer and Wm. Hooker, who went to Niagara with his father.

I have taken much pains to find some trace of the family of Theodore Lee, son of Col. Isaac, who settled in Torrington, Conn. He had sons, Elisha and Asahel—possibly more—and one daughter, but the result of my inquiries convinces me that there is little doubt that the family is extinct.

So long a time has passed since the descendants of John Lee began to separate, it is very difficult, probably impossible, to obtain a full list of the posterity in the female line, as the family name, which is often the only clue, has been lost; but it does seem as if, by united action, we might yet trace out all our kindred, near and remote, where we have the name as a guide.

Surely, we who are interested in this matter have a right to ask this much of all bearing the family name.

Mention has already been made of some of these lost families, but, for convenience, the names are grouped here of those concerning whom we have no knowledge, presuming, of course, that they married and had families, but it is very probable that in many cases they did not.

Jacob, and Josiah, sons of Dr. Isaac Lee of Middletown, and brothers of Col. Isaac of New Britain.

Asahel, son of Col. Isaac, who died in the army of the Revolution to the northward (*vide* Seth Lee's MSS.)

Ashbel Lee, who lived in 1770 at Lee, Mass.

Timothy Lee lived in Pittsfield, Mass., in 1772. These were sons of Stephen Lee, (brother of Col. Isaac,) who settled in Lenox, Mass.

Moses, Riverius and Simeon, sons of Dr. Ebenezer Lee of Farmington, afterwards of Canada (*vide* Seth Lee's MSS.)

Charles, son of William, the soldier, of Bristol.

John, son of John, Jr., of Berlin, born in Burlington, and who is supposed to have lived at Cape May, N. J.

Josiah, third son of David first of Coventry.

Elias, Josiah, Jedediah, Oliver, Zebulon and Simon, sons of Jedediah, who was the eldest son of the first David, at that time lived in Willington, Conn.

David, son of David, Jr., who is said by Rev. Chauncey Lee to have died in Vermont, had sons, David and Elisha, born in Becket, Mass.

Persons who can furnish information concerning any of these lost families are earnestly requested to communicate with the Secretary at once. He is ready and willing at any time to respond to any inquiries upon matters pertaining to the history of the Lees, so far as he has any knowledge.

By correspondence, he has acquired some information about other Lees, as well as our own, and knows something of the vast amount of labor work of this kind involves.

While this book has been going through the press, the subjoined brief outline of the family of Dr. Ebenezer Lee of Farmington, who, as stated, went to Canada after the close of the Revolutionary war, has been received. It is furnished by Dr. F. R. Lee Strathey, now of Harborne, near Birmingham, England, who is a grandson of Dr. Hiram Davis Lee, mentioned therein. It is just as he prepared it, but probably there are some errors, for the five brothers of Dr. Ebenezer were born in Farmington, according to Seth Lee's MSS., and, according to the same authority, his wife was Abigail Bull, niece of the noted Dr. Bull of Hartford. When the next edition of our "Lee Book" appears we hope to have in it a full and complete account of our Canadian kindred :

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#### MEMORANDA OF THE LEES.

[By Dr. F. R. Lee Strathey, of Harborne, England.]

Ebenezer was born 1727, at Canaan, Conn., U. S. ; married June 20, 1750, Abigail Bull, who was born at Canaan in 1728. Ebene-

zer was a neutral during the war of Independence, and, after it was over, came to Canada with his family. He died May 9, 1811, and his wife Abigail died January 11, 1812, both at Burford Gore, Upper Canada. They had seven sons and one daughter.

William Hooker, sixth son of Ebenezer and Abigail, was born February 10, 1761, at Old Canaan, Conn.; married, 1787, Phœbe Davis, who was born at Reading, Conn., January 24, 1771. She was the daughter of ——— Davis, a landholder in Connecticut, who at the time of the Anglo-American Revolution took up arms in the cause of England; was imprisoned three years, and then escaped to Canada, and had a grant of land as a U. E. Loyalist. Wm. Hooker and family came to Canada. Wm. Hooker was a physician, and was much esteemed, both privately and professionally, and practiced in the Niagara district, but ultimately removed to Southwold, London district, now county of Elgin, where he died March 30, 1829. His wife Phœbe died at the advanced age of 83 years, on December 15, 1853. They had thirteen children, namely:

I. John, born April 14, 1788, at Shaftesbury, Vermont; died January 19, 1792, at Clarknett, N. Y.

II. William Bull, born at Clarknett, June 21, 1790. He farmed land in county of Middlesex, Upper Canada, and latterly lived in the village of St. John, London township, same county, where he died August 11, 1855.

III. Hiram Davis, born at Clarknett, November 20, 1791; married Anne Terry, daughter of Simcoe Terry, a U. E. Loyalist of Erie district, who was a member of the first Parliament of Canada.

IV. John born at Dewain's Bush, N. Y., August 23, 1793; married ———, and had children, and died at Westminster, London, Canada West, on September 25, 1857.

V. Nancy, born January 12, 1795, at Dewain's Bush, N. Y.; married John W. Clark, and died November, 1827, at Southwold, London district.

1. Jane, born about 1820-23, died 1879.

2. Mary, born 1823-26, married about 1854 Thos. Ridout.

VI. Riverius Hooker, born July 1, 1796, at Standing Stone, Pennsylvania; married Elsie, daughter of Sheriff Rapelje, of St. Thomas, Canada West, and had several children.

1. Uzziel Clark married Frances Cornell, and had two children, a daughter, who died in infancy, and a son, Charles Russell, born about 1846, now a clergyman in Ontario.

2. Three daughters.

3. John, now in New York in business—James, George, Charles and Ralph.

Riverius was engaged in the war between Canada and the States, 1812-15, and died at Stratford, Canada West, September 25, 1862.

VII. Thaddeus, born January 9, 1798, at Queenstown, Upper Canada; died February 16, 1802, at Thorold.

VIII. Whiten, born June 4, and died July 17, 1799, at Thorold. The twin to Whiten was still-born.

IX. Henry Clark, born January 27, 1801, and died July 15, 1801, at Thorold, Upper Canada.

X. Salina, born May 14, 1802, at Thorold; married Dr. Chisholm, and had one child, Hiram, who died at London, Ont., December 17, 1873. Salina married secondly Edward Wm. Thomson from Dumfries, Scotland, but then of Toronto, Ont., by whom she had a daughter, Helen. Mr. Thomson raised a company of men and took up arms for England in the war with United States, 1812-15, and was in several engagements, being present when General Brock fell at Queenstown Heights. He was also at the taking of Fort Detroit, for which he received a medal and clasp. He was given the rank of Lieutenant Colonel of a regular fort regiment for bravery. He died at Toronto, 1865. Salina, his wife, died 1885.

XI. James Clark, born September 4, 1802, at Thorold; married, first Rachel Stockton, second Maria Mills; was a physician, and practiced in New York and also in London, Ont. He died at London, Ont., June 8, 1871, leaving no issue.

XII. Abigail, born March 12, 1805, at Thorold; married, ———, Lawrence Lawrason, formerly member of Parliament, then police magistrate at London, Ont., now dead.

XIII. Henry, born August 30, 1806, and died November 17, 1807, at Thorold.

Hiram Davis, third son of Wm. Hooker and Phœbe Lee, married Anne Terry 1818-19; was a physician. While a medical student, he undertook medical duties during the Anglo-American war, 1812-15, on the side of the English. Afterwards he practiced medicine some time in Southwold, London District (now County of Elgin), afterwards at Chippewa and the Niagara District, and latterly in London, Canada West. He was the government medical officer for London; died November 28, 1847, at London, during an epidemic of typhus fever, his death being due to his indefatigable exertions to attend his patients most carefully. He was a man of talent, and very highly esteemed by all classes for his unblemished and upright character. As a mark of respect, all the shops of the then village of London were closed during his funeral.

[Copied from the "Church Newspaper" of October, 1847, London, Upper Canada.]

#### DEATH OF DR. LEE.

In a succeeding column our readers will find the distressing obituary of an able and intrepid physician, Dr. Lee, whose self-sacrifice on the altar of duty well deserves to be classed in the rank of martyrdom. The bereavement which society at large suffers from the loss of men like Dr. Lee is one of the most afflicting features of the fearful disease which has been brought into the province by our late unhealthy emigration.

May God be pleased soon to stay the progress of the fatal sickness with which it hath seemed good in His wise providence to visit us.

As illustrating the spirit of those days and showing how little the idea of toleration was understood by our ancestors, the following extract from the church documents of Connecticut is given.

It has been furnished by Mr. George E. Hoadley of Hartford, to whom, with his brother, Charles J. Hoadley, our State Librarian, I am under obligations for assistance rendered in my search for historic information about the Lees generally.

Happily for us those days have passed, and people of all sorts of opinions upon religious matters, or with none at all, can enjoy them secure from molestation.

Rev. Mr. Gibbs, rector of St. Andrew's church, Simsbury, Conn., writes to the agent of the S. P. G., England, July 4, 1749:

"Stephen Lee of Cornwall, being firmly attached to the church, refused paying the collector for the support of the dissenting minister of the place, and for this was committed to the gaol of Hartford, at the news of which, I, being but twelve miles distant, went and visited him. The man being poor, I took pity on him and released him by paying his rate, which was £7, and the charges likewise, which, with the rate, amounted to £21; and this is the usage of dissenters towards Churchmen here, which very much grieves me."

Rev. Roger Viets, rector of St. Andrew's church, writes to the agent of the S. P. G., England, March 14, 1764, in reference to the following marriage:

"At John Burghes's, Great Barrington, December 20, 1763, Nathaniel Lee to Sarah Hubbel, both of Great Barrington."

In one of my visits (to Great Barrington) I joined a couple in marriage, having previously had evidence of their legal publication, of the consent of the parents and guardians of the parties, and that there was no just cause or impediment why they should not be joined together.

For this I was arrested at my next visit, on the 30th of January, in the midst of my congregation, and in my robes, soon after the conclusion of the morning service, and conveyed within one or two hours to the county jail, where I continued eight days (with many indulgences from the jail keeper), and then gave bonds with three substantial sureties for my appearance at the Court, which is fifty miles from Symsbury. I employed three attorneys and attended the Court, but the action was never entered in the county clerk's book against me.

The gentleman who prosecuted me was one Mr. Mark Hopkins, town clerk, county treasurer, King's attorney, and brother to the dissenting teacher at Great Barrington, who took me to Mr. Timothy Hopkins, brother to the same dissenting teacher.

My experience in this affair, besides the disgraceful insults and indignities I have suffered, amount to a considerable sum, and have been of great detriment to me and the people of my mission.

When this work was well advanced, it came to our knowledge that Mr. William H. Lee of New York owned wood cuts of the Farmington monuments to John, and of the old Lee House in New Britain, illustrating a short historical sketch of Col. Isaac Lee, one of the prominent men in Connecticut in civic matters during the war for national independence. The paper was prepared for a historical society by his great-grandson, William H. Lee, and appeared in "The History of New England," published in Boston. Believing this extract would be a valuable and interesting feature of this book,

the Secretary solicited Mr. Lee for permission to use them. He cheerfully consented, and to his courtesy we are indebted for being able to give them a place. Although out of the order in which they would have appeared had they been in our possession earlier, we are glad to say that their interest and value are in no way impaired thereby.

“The leader of the settlement of Farmington appears to have been Deacon Stephen Hart, a native of Braintree, Eng., — a man of great piety and worldly possessions, one of the original settlers of Hartford, and ancestor of a numerous family of descendants. Another of the first settlers of Hartford was William Westwoode, whose lands adjoined those of Hart, — a man of education, wealth and business ability, and one active in the organization of the civil affairs of the colony, and in the establishment of some sort of code for the government of the people. With Westwoode and his wife there came a lad, John Lee by name, thirteen years of age, who landed with the Westwoodes at Boston, in 1634, from the ship “Francis,” of Ipswich, Eng., and with them came to Hartford with the original one hundred persons; and, when arriving at the age of twenty-one, joined the Farmington settlement, in 1641, one year after Hart and his party had taken possession.

“In an old manuscript, now in a good state of preservation, written by a great-grandson of Lee’s, and tutor in Yale College in 1766, it is recorded that Lee was sent out by his father from Colchester, and that the latter intended following his son, but for some reason never came; and that very little is preserved of their English connections. In 1658 Lee married Mary, daughter of the good deacon, traditionally supposed to be both beautiful and accomplished; and from this union there was a succession bearing the name, one of which is the subject of a part of our sketch.

“The old town, in its original outline, is full of interesting reminiscences and places, and as in Hartford, Windsor, Wethersfield, Middletown, Saybrook, etc., there are yet standing houses and homes in which lived the early fathers, who have, in their descendants, sent out to bless the land their portion of reliable and distinguished men in every walk of life. It is difficult to estimate to what extent the product of these first settlements have been instrumental in the wonderful developments of this country since their day; but it is easy to determine that, from these old towns of the Connecticut colony, the sum total of their descendants forms a large percentage of the native population of the cities and towns west of the State line; and that they have been a tower of strength in high places, in all professions, and in all business enterprises throughout the land.

“A few years ago, the headstone of the grave of John Lee was discovered in the old cemetery in Farmington, covered with earth, and is regarded as a curiosity, independent of its indicating the exact burial-spot of one of the first settlers of New England. His descendants have erected a monument, where was found the rough and crumbling stone, upon one side of which is reproduced the quaint



inscription lettered upon the old stone, both of which are represented in the accompanying cuts.



“THE JOHN LEE MONUMENT,” FARMINGTON, CONN.

“In 1754 a part of Farmington was set off and incorporated as an ecclesiastical society, and named New Britain, — the name given by Isaac Lee, a young man in middle life, who, as will be seen, became a conspicuous member of the town in its political and church organizations. This was followed by the inauguration, in 1757, of the Rev. John Smalley, an Englishman by birth, just graduated from Yale College, as pastor of the church, and who in course of time became one of the leading divines of New England. This was a period of time when there was developing through all New England an outgrowth of men such as the world had never before seen, and whose lives and character have done so much to give it the reputation it now bears. Every town of any magnitude seemed to have its local celebrities: New Britain had hers. They were Col. Isaac Lee and Dr. John Smalley. From 1761 to 1791, Lee was twenty-four of the thirty years a member of the Colonial and General Assembly of the State, and was an influential and active member, serving at times upon the most important committees of the Legislature. Both in the colony and the early years of the republic, extraordinary powers were delegated to those in authority; and, with few statute laws upon their books, there was an unwritten one adminis-

tered, which would now be deemed arbitrary and oppressive. Lee was chief magistrate of the town a good half of his life, and it is among the traditions that his decisions were wise and impartial, "but a terror to evil doers." He was familiarly known as "Colonel," having in colonial times received a commission from the government; first, as captain, in 1767, of the Thirteenth Company of the Train-Band of the Sixth Regiment, and, in 1775, as colonel of the Fifteenth Regiment. In 1788 he was a delegate from his town to the Convention at Hartford called to ratify the Constitution of the United States. Colonel Lee inherited a fine property from his father, and was a heavy tax-payer. From being so long in public life, his manners became reserved, and sometimes austere, though such as to command respect, but not familiarity. He was courteous and dignified, and fastidiously particular about his attire. His dress was a blue coat with metal buttons, silk stockings, shoes with large silver buckles, white wig and cocked hat. In person he was tall and erect.

"The house in which he lived and died is still standing in the main street of the city. The southerly part was built in the early years of the last century, and is now about one hundred and sixty years old. The northerly and larger part was built just prior to the war, and given to his son, Isaac. The whole has always been known as "The Old Lee House," an illustration of which is given. Colonel Lee was born in 1716; married thrice; and died in the eighty-sixth year of his age, lamented and honored."

Referring to his death, the *Connecticut Courant* of December 22, 1802, said:

Col. ISAAC LEE.

[*Obituary from the "Connecticut Courant" of Dec. 22, 1802.*]

"On the 13th inst. departed this life, Col. ISAAC LEE, Esq., of Berlin, after a painful illness, which he bore with great Christian meekness and patience, in the close of the eighty-seventh year of his age. He was endowed by nature with an active mind, sound judgment and a vigorous body; and by careful observation and a close application to reading, he attained to a very considerable degree of knowledge and useful information. He was employed in public business from early life until old age rendered it inconvenient for him. He passed through several military grades to the command of a regiment; and for more than thirty years sustained the office of Justice of the Peace; during which time, he was very generally chosen a Representative of the Town to the General Assembly in this State. In these employments he met the approbation of the public and got honor to himself. He was always a firm friend to the rights and liberties of the people, and to the necessary restraints of good government, and exerted himself with much zeal to promote useful knowledge, morals, and religion, in the Society and Town in which he lived. He was an affectionate husband, a tender parent, a charitable neighbor and a steadfast friend. To which we must add—he was a peculiar friend to religion. In early life he made a public profession of his belief in the doctrines of the gospel of Christ; and



*Col. Isaac Lee.*

OF NEW BRITAIN, CONN.

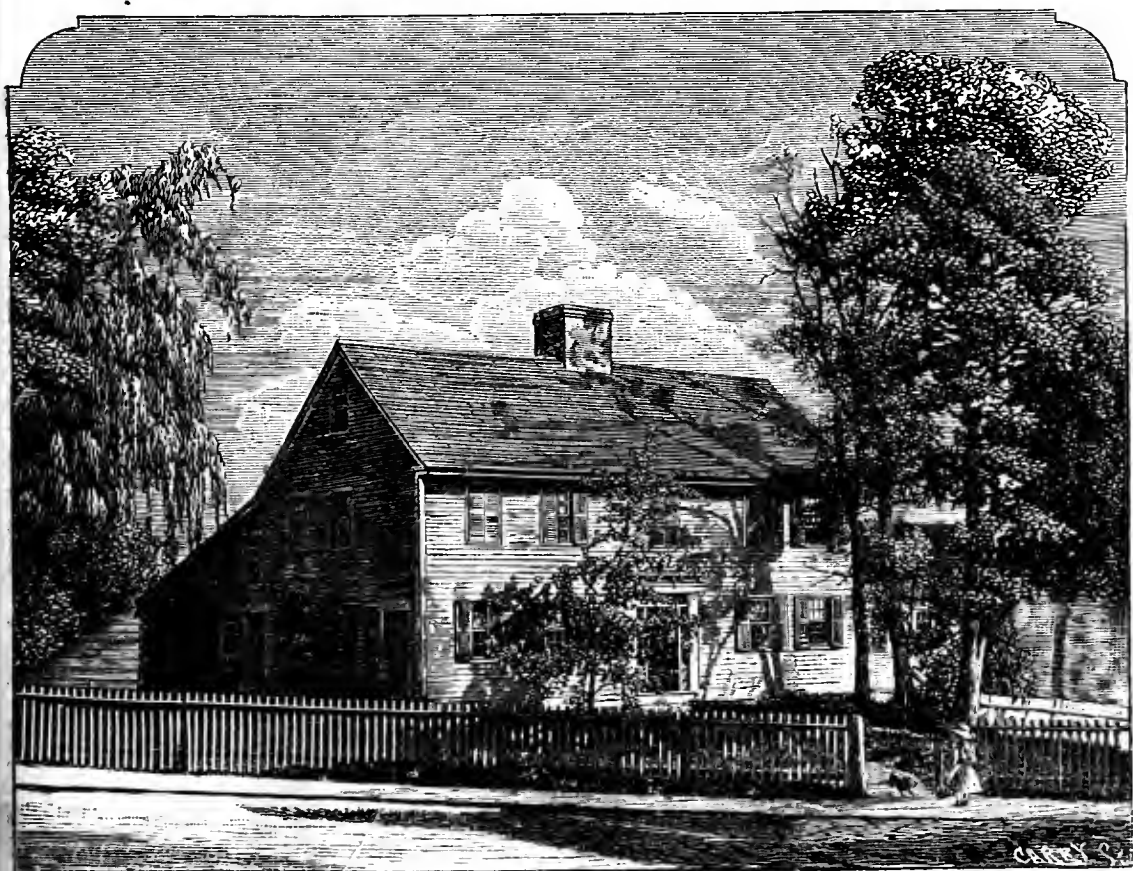
B. 1716—D. 1802.



through a long life honored his profession by a constant attendance on public and family worship—and, for many years he sustained the office of Deacon, to the great acceptance and comfort of the church.—As his life drew towards a close, he experienced more and more the worth and comfort of that religion, which he professed and recommended to others. And in the last solemn hour of trial, he was enabled, freely, to resign himself into the hands of a sovereign and merciful God, trusting solely in the righteousness of Jesus Christ, for salvation and eternal life.

“His interment, on the 15th, was attended by a large concourse of people, to whom was delivered a sermon excellently adapted to the solemn occasion, by the Rev. J. SMALLEY, D.D., from these words, *‘To the spirits of just men made perfect.’* Heb. xii.: 23. The deceased has left a sorrowful and aged widow and three children to mourn their loss. And his memory, for a long time to come, will be dear to a numerous acquaintance.

“The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.”



“THE OLD LEE HOUSE, NEW BRITAIN, CONN.

Again, before laying aside the pen which closes these somewhat fragmentary and disconnected details, the secretary earnestly solicits correspondence from any parties who are interested in the Lee genealogy, but especially those who have any suspicion that they are of Connecticut origin prior to the American Revolution.

## CLOSING.

An opinion prevails somewhat among our kindred that there is somewhere a vast fortune in waiting for such of the Lees as can prove their connection with certain families in England, and that this matter of tracing out our kindred, and searching for the descendants of John Lee, is with a view to possibilities of inheriting in a somewhat undefined way moneys said to be awaiting proofs of kinship. How this idea originated has not yet been made plain, but that it does exist there can be no doubt. It was a maxim of Dr. Benjamin Franklin, that "those who wait for dead men's shoes have a long while to go barefoot"—a proverb, the truth of which must be apparent to every one who has reached middle life. Undoubtedly, it would be pleasant to us all to cherish the hope that by and by a large fortune would be ours, but when there are no facts or probabilities upon which to base it, reason would seem to suggest that "building castles in the air," while pleasant as an amusement, is not a profitable employment. Our ancestor, as it is seen by the records published, was of the best blood of England, and while making no claims to rank or titles, it is our pride that he comes from the yeomanry of England, that have transmitted to their descendants the examples of a sturdy manhood, that has convictions of right and duty, and that is willing to fight to sustain them, and to die if need be in their defence; of a womanhood, that is faithful, tender and loving, in all the relations of life. Our long line of ancestry is resplendent with deeds of manly daring and womanly tenderness. With such a record we can say with England's philosophic poet:

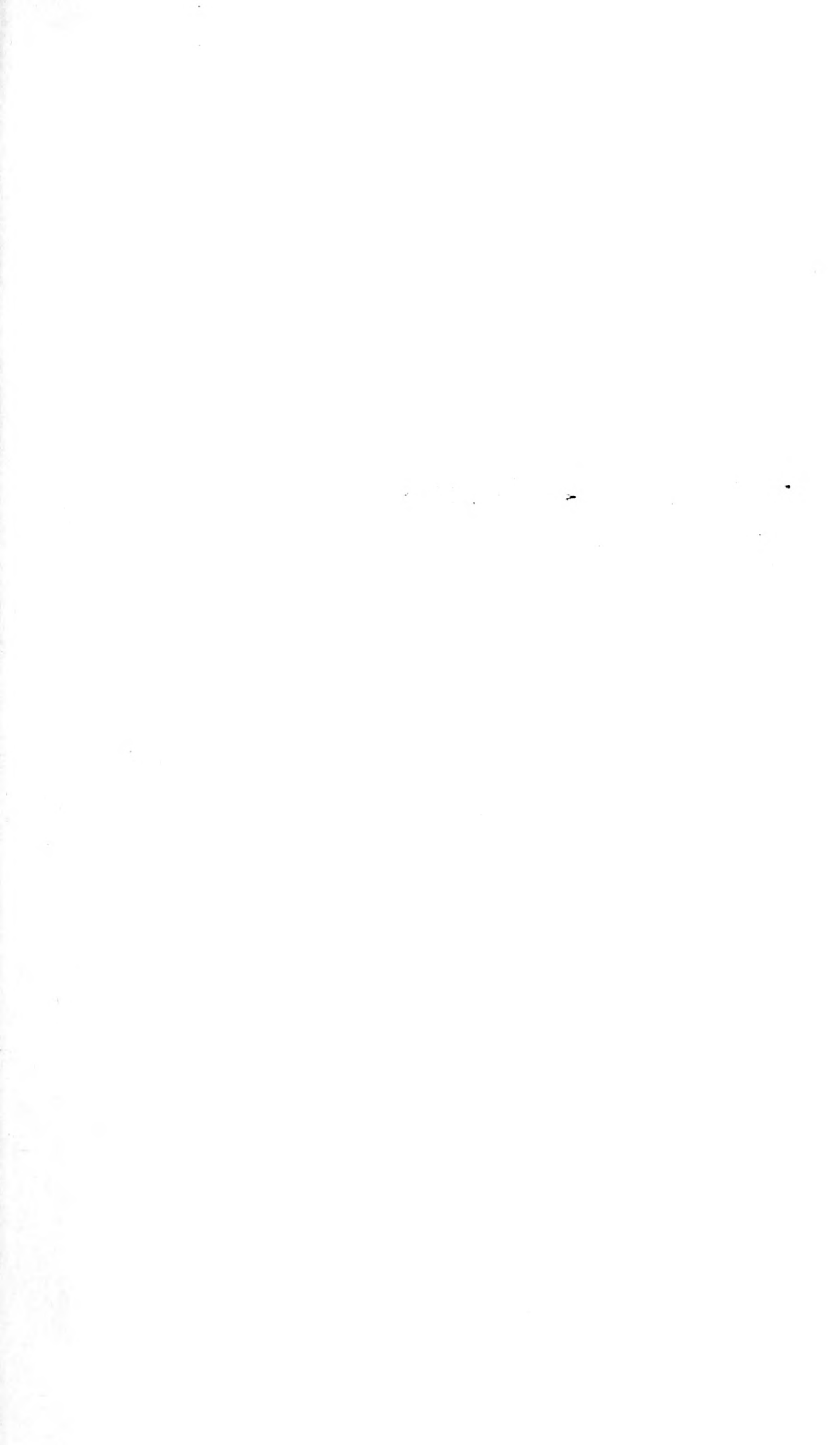
"Honor and shame from no condition rise.  
Act well your part; there all the honor lies."

This is as true now as when it was written, and will be while sterling manhood commands respect, and the graces of tender womanhood claim our love.

Here the Secretary brings the work of compiling and arranging this little book to a close, and although it has been prolonged far beyond his expectation it has not been purposely delayed. Circumstances beyond his control have operated to delay and hinder the completion.

With the hope that it will be read with interest and pleasure combined among our widely scattered kindred, and also many others who bear the Lee name, and that our next family gathering will be even a greater source of pleasure to all its participants than that of 1884, he signs,

WM. WALLACE LEE.













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